

SATURDAY	13th	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)	
17:00		Vigil Mass	<i>Hugh de Bary Cordes - RIP</i>
SUNDAY	14th	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)	
09:00		Sung Mass	<i>Our Parish Community</i>
10:45		Sung Mass	<i>Domenico Callegari - RIP</i>
15:00		Bible Study	
16:00		Mass (DW)	
MONDAY	15th	Feria	
		No Mass	
TUESDAY	16th	Feria	
09:30		Mass	<i>Angelique de Folin Page - RIP</i>
WEDNESDAY	17th	Feria (O Sapientia)	
09:30		Mass	<i>Arturo Guillen - RIP</i>
THURSDAY	18th	Feria (O Adonai)	
19:00		Mass (DW)	<i>Good estate of the Cooper family</i>
FRIDAY	19th	Feria (O Radix Jesse)	
12:00		Mass	<i>John Joliffe - RIP</i>
SATURDAY	20th	Feria (O Clavis David)	
09:00		Mass	<i>Charles Fenwick - RIP</i>
17:00		Vigil Mass for FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)	
SUNDAY	21st	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)	
09:00		Sung Mass (DW)	<i>Our Parish Community</i>
10:45		Sung Mass	
15:00		Carol Service	

CONFESSIONS are heard half an hour before Masses, **Saturdays from 16:00** or by appointment.

Chantry List for the coming week: We pray for the happy repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, especially for those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time: *Thomas Arnold; Hannah Hart; Barney Kline; Donnell Bowring; Patrick Hagan; Mary Gilmer; Doris Harwood; Wladyslaw Malinowski; George O'Brien; Rosemary Stephens; Eva Juskevicius; Winston Waters; Joyce O'Dowd; John D'Eath; Teresa Lowrie; Encarna Raffo; Keith Mortiboys. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Our prayers for the Sick & Suffering include: Angela L, Barry S, Kerri H, Maura G, Sid B, Marjorie S, Genette F, Teresa H, Noel K, Dean K, Christopher D, Peter W, Gina O, Carmelo S, Samantha B, John, Isaac Nelson, Ann Mary B, Brian B, Grace Gosling-Campbell, Beth Thompson, Evelyn Korinth, Samson, Pamela Boulden, Holly Flatman, John Devraj, Coral.

CONTACTS:

Parish Priest – Fr Alex Garner:

21 Blackthorn Ave, Colchester, C04 3QD – ☎ 01206 870460 Mobile 07500794028

e-mail: greenstead@brcdt.org

Web Site: www.stjohnpayne.org.uk

Newsletter Editor – Lindsay Francis: greenstead@brcdt.org

Lay Pastoral Assistant – Ann Roughan – ☎ 07889101762

Hall Administrators – Tom and Mary Smith – ☎ 07890540056 Greenstead-hall@brcdt.org

Safeguarding Reps – Lindsay Francis and Mike Sheehan: Safeguarding-greenstead@brcdt.org

Health & Safety Rep – George Bulmer – ☎ 01206 870460

The Canonesses: 74 Howe Close, Colchester, C04 3XD - 01206 867296

Brentwood Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 234092

St John Payne Catholic Parish Greenstead, Ardleigh and Mistley

We of St John Payne Catholic Parish seek to reflect the joyful life-affirming power of Christ's Living Presence among all where Essex meets East Anglia.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A) 14th December 2025 Gaudete Sunday

1st Reading:

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

'God himself will come and save you.'

Responsorial Psalm

R/. Come, Lord, and save us.

2nd Reading:

James 5:7-10

'Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.'



Gospel Reading:

Matthew 11:2-11

'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'

CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES

Sunday 21st December at 15:00 - Carol Service *(followed by mulled wine & mince pies).*

Christmas Eve at 17:00 – Children's Vigil Mass

Christmas Eve at 23:00 – 'Midnight' Mass

Christmas Day at 10:00 – Mass of the Day



Please turn off your mobile phone or put it on silent mode while you are in church.

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER: For Christians in areas of conflict.

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES TODAY: This Sunday 14th December, during Children's Liturgy and after Mass, there will be Christmas craft activities for children in the Church Hall. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Please bring a plate of food for a Bring & Share Lunch if you can. All welcome!

CHRISTMAS FAYRE – THANK YOU to everyone who was involved in organising the Fayre, and to everyone who came along to support it. It was a wonderfully friendly and well attended occasion, and raised over £1600!

COLCHESTER FOOD BANK: The next collection for the Food Bank is today **Sunday 14th December**. Thank you for your generosity towards those in our community who are struggling on low incomes, particularly as we approach the Christmas season. *James Francis*

REFRESHMENTS AFTER 09:00 MASS DURING ADVENT: Tea and coffee will be served in the Church Hall after the Sunday 09:00 Mass during Advent, with the exception of Sunday December 21st. Please come and join us!

BISHOP THOMAS McMAHON RIP: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rt Rev Thomas McMahon, Bishop Emeritus of Brentwood Diocese, who died peacefully at his home in Stock on 24th November. Bishop Thomas's funeral on Tuesday 16th December at 11.30 will be livestreamed from the Cathedral at:

<https://www.shealolin.co.uk/bishop-thomas>

May he rest in peace.

ADVENT RESOURCES: Caritas Brentwood has a range of Advent resources and useful Advent links at:

<https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/resource/advent/>

CAFOD: We have received the following message of thanks: *"On behalf of CAFOD and the global Caritas family I am writing to express our heartfelt thanks to you and your parish for the generous donations, prayers and actions in support of CAFOD's work this Jubilee year. Your support has enabled us to fund projects in more than 40 countries and stand alongside communities who live with the horror of conflict. In this holy season of Advent, may you and your parish be richly blessed with Hope, Peace, Joy and Love."*

'KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS' POSTERS: Please take a poster (or two!) to display in your windows.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING: Envelopes are now available for Christmas offerings for the clergy, for those who would like to give but who will be away from the Parish at Christmas.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR: We have a Children's singing group in the Church Hall on Saturday mornings from 10:00-11:15. This is aimed at children aged 7 and above, but may include younger children if they are keen to learn. **Parents need to accompany children**, but tea and coffee will be served.

ADULT CHOIR: We also hold singing rehearsals for our adult singers on Saturday mornings, from 11:15 – 12:30. No experience needed, all welcome!

RCIA: If you or any adults you know are interested in learning more about Baptism and Confirmation in the Catholic Church, please speak to Fr Alex.

STAY & PLAY and LITTLE STARS: The Greenstead Stay & Play group meets in our Church Hall every Wednesday morning 09:30-11:30 during term time. Parents with pre-school children are welcome to drop in. This is followed by the Little Stars Dance class. See posters.

NEW YOUTH CLUB IN GREENSTEAD: Here in SJP Church Hall, a new Youth Club is meeting every Thursday from 6-8pm (term time only). Ages 11-16 welcome. See poster for further details, or email contact@eastangliayouthclubs.co.uk If you would like to volunteer to help on Thursday evenings, please send them an email.

STANDING ORDERS AND GIFT AID: Have you thought about giving by standing order? This really helps us to manage our finances. Gift-aiding your donations enables the Parish to reclaim tax at no cost to you! Please speak to Yemi for more information.

LECTIO DIVINA PRAYER GROUP: every Tuesday, in the SJP Church Hall, from 10.00 – 10.45. For further information see Judy after Mass or tel. 07530956440.

LOURDES WITH OUR DIOCESE: Join Bishop Alan and pilgrims from across our diocese in Lourdes next summer: Friday 17th - Friday 24th July 2026. Booking details will be available in the New Year.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES: If you have any questions or concerns about safeguarding, or need a new or renewed DBS certificate for a volunteer role in the Parish, please contact Lindsay Francis on 07977917554 or Mike Sheehan on 07493777225; or by email at Safeguarding-greenstead@brcdt.org or via the Parish Office.

PARISH FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM AND WEBSITE: We have a [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) page, St John Payne Catholic Church, and a new look website <https://stjohnpayne.org.uk>. Check them out!

PARISH EMAIL ADDRESS –Please send **all** correspondence, and Newsletter items (by midday on Thursday) to: greenstead@brcdt.org