

SATURDAY	20 th	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)	
17:00	Vigil Mass	Charles Fenwick - RIP	
SUNDAY	21 st	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)	
09:00	Sung Mass (DW)	Our Parish Community	
10:45	Sung Mass		
15:00	Carol Service		
MONDAY	22 nd	Feria (O Rex Gentium)	
12:00	Mass		
TUESDAY	23 rd	Feria (O Emmanuel)	
09:30	Mass		
WEDNESDAY	24 th	Feria (Christmas Eve)	
09:30	Mass		
10:00 - 11:00	Confessions		
17:00	Children's Vigil Mass for THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD		
23:00	'Midnight' Mass (DW) THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD		
THURSDAY	25 th	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - <i>Holyday of Obligation</i>	
10:00	Sung Mass		
FRIDAY	26 th	ST STEPHEN, The First Martyr	
12:00	Mass		
SATURDAY	27 th	ST JOHN, Ap, Ev	
09:00	Mass		
17:00	Vigil Mass for THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH (A)		
SUNDAY	28 th	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS MARY & JOSEPH (A)	
09:00	Sung Mass	Our Parish Community	
10:45	Sung Mass		
16:00	Mass (DW)		

CONFESIONS 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: *Beatrice Mitchell; Theologhia De Carlo; Mary Luca; Vera Guiver; Leokadia Beres; Delia Dinsdale; Maurice Teahan; Cornelius Okusi; Harry Cook; Molly McCutcheon*. **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:

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

21st December 2025

1st Reading:

Isaiah 7:10-14 'Behold, the virgin shall conceive.'

Responsorial Psalm

R/. **Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.**

2nd Reading:

Romans 1:1-7 'Jesus Christ, descended from David, Son of God.'



Gospel Reading:

Matthew 1:18-24 *Jesus was born of Mary, who was betrothed to Joseph, son of David.*

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.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: extends heartfelt gratitude for the ongoing support of our Parish, which enables them to provide vital mental health services, create safe spaces for children to express themselves, and offer hope to families and children during difficult times. Our Christmas Crib collection is, as usual, in aid of BCCS.

'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.

LADIES COFFEE MORNING : Just to wish you all a Happy, Holy and Healthy Christmas, hope to meet in the New Year not sure what date. Thank you all for your continued help and support always. Love Maureen x

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.

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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.

COLCHESTER FOOD BANK: Thank you for your generosity towards those in our community who are struggling on low incomes. We were able to deliver 18.35kg of donated food, toiletries and nappies, plus cash donations, last week. The next collection will be on Sunday 9th January. *James Francis*

RETROUVAILLE HELPS MARRIAGES: It can bring hope and healing to relationships.

Next date: 12th February 2026. For more information:

www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 07887 296983

CARITAS BRENTWOOD – RESPONDING TO HOMELESSNESS: You are invited to join Caritas Brentwood at their upcoming 'Responding to Homelessness' event on Saturday 24th January 2026 (10am-12:30pm), at St Francis of Assisi Catholic Parish in Stratford. It will offer practical support, shared insights, and meaningful discussions with local organisations, including Your Place Anchor House, Rainham Foodbank, and the Basildon Night Shelter, who are all working on the frontline of homelessness. For more information and to register for free, go to: www.caritasbrentwood.org/events

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.

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17:00		Vigil Mass <i>Our Parish Community</i>
SUNDAY	28 th	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH (A)
09:00		Sung Mass <i>Eileen Kelly - RIP</i>
10:45		Sung Mass <i>Edith Archer - RIP</i>
16:00		Mass (DW)
MONDAY	29 th	ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, Bp, M
		<i>No Mass</i>
TUESDAY	30 th	In the Octave of Christmas
09:30		Mass <i>Fr Tom Coffey - Int</i>
WEDNESDAY	31 st	St Silvester I, P
09:30		Mass <i>Mary Maguire - Int</i>
14:00		Nuptial Mass - Clarice Francis & Chris Johnston
THURSDAY	1 st	MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
12:00		Mass (DW) <i>Bernard Roughan & Others - RIP</i>
FRIDAY	2 nd	Ss Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bpp, Dd
12:00		Mass <i>John & May Coffey - Int</i>
SATURDAY	3 rd	The Most Holy Name of Jesus
09:00		Mass
17:00		Vigil Mass for SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY <i>Fr Tom Coffey - Int</i>
SUNDAY	4 th	SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY
09:00		Sung Mass <i>Our Parish Community</i>
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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: *Mary Moore; Eileen Sabini; Edward & Kathleen Kearns; Michael Lyness; Charles Fahie; Mary Walkden; Frank Smith; John Lowe; Eileen Bradbrook; James Trinnaman; Mary Morrison; Michael Sheehan. 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.

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THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH (A)

28th December 2025

1st Reading:

Sirach 3:2-6,12-14

'He who fears the Lord honours his parents.'

Responsorial Psalm

R/. Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways.

2nd Reading:

Colossians 3:12-21

Family life in the Lord



Gospel Reading:

Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

'Take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt.'

Thank you very much to everyone who has made our Christmas celebrations so enjoyable!

Thank you to all who have contributed so generously to the Christmas offering, and for all the many cards and gifts received.

Wishing you and your families every blessing for Christmas and the year ahead,

Fr Alex



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THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY: Pray with the Word of God.

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

EPIPHANY: The Epiphany of the Lord will be celebrated this year on Tuesday 6th January. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be at 12:00 and at 19:00 (DW).

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: extends heartfelt gratitude for the ongoing support of our Parish, which enables them to provide vital mental health services, create safe spaces for children to express themselves, and offer hope to families and children during difficult times. Our Christmas Crib collection is, as usual, in aid of BCCS.

WEDDING OF CLARICE FRANCIS & CHRIS JOHNSTON: The Nuptial Mass will be celebrated here on New Year's Eve, Wednesday 31st December, at 14:00. Parishioners are very welcome to come along to the Mass and to join the family for light refreshments in the Church Hall afterwards.

LEGO CLUB: The next Lego Club will be on Saturday 17th January from 11:00 – 13:00 in the Church Hall, and every third Saturday of the month, going forward. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Refreshments will be provided. All welcome!

NEW MEN'S GROUP: Saturday 17th January at 19:00 in the Church Hall. A chance for men (over 18s only) to meet, chat and pray together. We are intending to watch a film together on this occasion. Speak to Fr Alex for further details.

LADIES COFFEE MORNING : Just to wish you all a Happy, Holy and Healthy Christmas, hope to meet in the New Year not sure what date. Thank you all for your continued help and support always. Love Maureen x

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SUNDAY	4 th	SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY
09:00		Sung Mass <i>Our Parish Community</i>
10:45		Sung Mass
16:00		Mass (DW)
MONDAY	5 th	Weekday of Christmas Time
		No Mass
TUESDAY	6 th	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - <i>Holyday of Obligation</i>
12:00		Mass
19:00		Mass (DW)
WEDNESDAY	7 th	Weekday of Christmas Time
09:30		Mass
THURSDAY	8 th	Weekday of Christmas Time
19:00		Mass (DW)
FRIDAY	9 th	Weekday of Christmas Time
12:00		Mass
SATURDAY	10 th	Weekday of Christmas Time
09:00		Mass
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SUNDAY	11 th	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (A)
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SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY

4th January 2026

1st Reading:

Sirach 24:1-2,8-12

The wisdom of God has dwelt in the chosen people.

Responsorial Psalm

R/. **The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.**

2nd Reading:

Ephesians 1:3-6,15-18

'He predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus.'



Gospel Reading:

John 1:1-18

'The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.'

EPIPHANY

The Epiphany of the Lord will be celebrated this year on Tuesday 6th January.

It is a **Holy Day of Obligation.**

Mass will be at 12:00 and at 19:00 (DW).

Remember to pick up some blessed chalk as you leave!



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