

## ***This week's news for both Parishes***

In the **Annual Cycle of Prayer** we are asked to pray during **Ordinary Time (Winter up to Lent)** for peace on earth; Christian unity; the sick and those who care for them; students and teachers and the unemployed.

The **Holy Father's Mission Intention for February** is that the Lord may strengthen health workers assisting the sick and elderly in the poorest regions of the world.

### **Scripture Readings for the Sixth Sunday in the Year of Mark**

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; Psalm 31; 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45.

## ***Catholics go to Mass on Sundays and abstain from meat on Fridays.***

**A Question of Faith.** An evening of questions on living the Catholic faith to be held at St Monica's Church, De Vere Lane, Wivenhoe, CO7 9AU this Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Questions will cover moral issues and quandaries, theology and scripture. The Church and its history and the Church in today's world. Refreshments are provided and there is no charge. All are welcome. Further details are available from the Commission for Evangelisation and Formation on 01277 265289 or email

[CEF@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:CEF@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

**Feast this week:** Fri 10 Memorial of St Scholastica, virgin  
Sat 11 Diocesan feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, principal patroness of the diocese

The Governors of St Philomena's School are committed to broadening access to St Philomena's Catholic School by offering parents/carers means tested **scholarships**. These scholarships will cover all school fees from the Early Years Department to Year 6 and will be offered in the first instance to Catholic children. Please apply for full details to The Registrar, St Philomena's School, Hadleigh Road, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex, CO13 9HQ or email [registrar@stphilomenas.com](mailto:registrar@stphilomenas.com)

The **Annual Diocesan Catholic Fellowship Mass** for people with special needs and their carers will be held in Brentwood Cathedral on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 3 o'clock. A warm welcome awaits families with special needs and there will be refreshments in the Cathedral Hall afterwards.

**Singing the New Missal Translations** will be held on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 3.30 pm at Holy Cross and All Saints, Warley, Brentwood CM15 3AJ. Frances Novillo, RSCM Regional Music Adviser and member of the Westminster Diocesan Music Committee will help you feel more confident with singing the Mass. Adults £5, under 16s free. Further information and bookings from Shirley Timmins, 156 Warley Hill, Brentwood, CM14 5HF, tel.: 01277 233302/21944 or email [picturesque@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:picturesque@tiscali.co.uk)

The retiring collection next weekend will be for the work of the **Diocesan Lourdes Sick and Helpers Pilgrimage Fund.**

# NEWSLETTER

for Catholics in the Tendring Peninsula  
from Father Michael Stokes, Parish Priest.

The Fifth Sunday in the Year of Mark 5<sup>th</sup> February 2012

Dear Parishioners,

All of us from time to time can experience life as something of a struggle or a burden. This might be because of some difficulty in our family, or our work may be unsatisfying or troublesome, or in these times of recession we may have lost our job, or our own health or the health of someone we love may be deteriorating. Any one of these or similar experiences can take its toll on us. We might find ourselves struggling to get through the day; we feel stressed and, as a result, we overreact to things, getting annoyed at what we would normally take in our stride. We may even find we have little energy for life.

At such times we can identify easily with the sentiments of Job, and with his description of life as 'pressed service' and 'hired drudgery'. The temptation when life becomes a burden can be to try harder, to summon up more of our energies, to do more to tackle the problem. In reality, the better path might be to do less, to step back and be still, to open ourselves to the presence of the Lord. During the past week I heard someone say that we are human beings not human doings. We often find it easier to do than to be.

The portrayal of Jesus in today's gospel reading may have something to teach us in this regard. Because people recognised that God's healing power was at work through Jesus, they came to him for healing. He certainly had no shortage of work. He was told initially about Simon Peter's mother-in-law who was sick with a fever. Later on that day the whole town came crowding round the door of Simon Peter's house looking for healing. That was only in Capernaum. Jesus could have worked day and night in all the towns of Galilee, healing the broken, releasing people from whatever was enslaving them.

Yet, Jesus knew the importance of standing back from what he was doing and being alone with God, even if it meant doing less. We find him going off to a lonely place early in the morning to pray. When the disciples realized where he had gone, they were clearly puzzled by this behaviour of Jesus – going off on his own like that when there was so much work to be done. 'Everyone in Capernaum is looking for you', they said, as much as to say, 'what are you doing out here on your own, when you could be healing more sick people back in Capernaum?' But Jesus was not at the mercy of the demands of others, even the demands of those he was closest to. There was an even more important relationship in his life than his relationship with the needy and the sick, and that was his relationship with God, his Father. To do the work of the Father well, he knew that he needed to be with the Father, even though that meant doing less.

## ***Catholic Parish of Harwich and Dovercourt***

*Member of Churches Together in the Harwich Peninsula*

**Church of Our Lady Queen of Heaven**

**129 Fronks Road, Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex, CO12 4EF.** Tel: 01255 503383

E-Mail: [catholicchurchharwich@talktalk.net](mailto:catholicchurchharwich@talktalk.net)

Website : [www.harwichcatholics.net](http://www.harwichcatholics.net)

**St. Joseph's Catholic (Voluntary Aided) Primary School,** The Drive, Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex, CO12 3SU. Acting Head: Mrs Marie Kelly Tel: 01255 503493.

**Parish Office Hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays 10.00am – 12 noon**

**Times of Services: Monday to Friday 9.00am Mass or Service of Prayer**

**Sunday Mass 10.45am**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: first and third Saturdays 9.30am.**

### **Service Times and Mass Intentions:**

Mon	6	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Tues	7	10.00 am	FUNERAL MASS: Mick O'Shea
Wed	8	9.00 am	Mass: Marie Treacy RIP
Thurs	9	9.00 am	Mass: Alice McCarthy RIP
Fri	10	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Sun	12	10.45 am	Mass: Int Marie Naylor (sick) (Ovenden)

**Facts and Figures:** 126 people gathered for Mass last Sunday and gave £325.69 to the collection at Mass. Bank Standing orders amounted to £171. Thank you for your offerings.

**Funeral arrangements:** Please pray for Michael (Mick) James O'Shea of Bayview Crescent, Little Oakley, who died 25<sup>th</sup> January aged 64 years. The Rite of Christian Burial will begin at 10 o'clock on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February with the reception of his body into the church and the celebration of the Funeral Mass. Mass will conclude with the interment in the Dovercourt Cemetery. May the Lord welcome him into paradise.

We welcome **Owen Tyrell** into the Catholic Church and his parish community following his baptism on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January.

If you are interested in joining the *Cantores Reginae Coelorum Choir* for this year's music concert in May please contact Clare Leach on 880832 or [clareleach37@btinternet.com](mailto:clareleach37@btinternet.com). Fortnightly practises start in the church at 7.30pm this Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February.

Norah and Dave Maynard will be making the **Pilgrim Way Walk to Santiago de Compostella** in Spain in a few weeks time. They are willing to accept sponsorship to raise funds for our parish and for CAFOD. There are sponsorship lists in the church porch, and donations may be gift aided by tax payers if they give their name and full address on the sheet. Such support will add 24% to the funds.

The next meeting of the **Harwich and Dovercourt Parish Pastoral Council** will be held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm in the Presbytery.

## ***Catholic Parish of Frinton and Walton***

*Member of Churches Together in Walton-on-the-Naze*

**Church of the Sacred Heart and St. Francis**

**114 Connaught Avenue, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex, CO13 9AD.** Tel: 01255 674475

E-Mail: [frinton@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:frinton@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

**St. Philomena's Independent Catholic Primary School,** Hadleigh Road, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex, CO13 9HQ. Head Teacher: Mrs Barbara McKeown Tel: 01255 674492.

**Times of Services: Monday to Friday 9.00am Mass or Service of Prayer**

**Sunday Mass: Saturday 6.00pm, Sunday 8.30am**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: second and fourth Saturdays 9.30am.**

### **Service Times and Mass Intentions:**

Mon	6	9.00 am	Mass: Int Annemarie and Martin Harold (Sisters)
Tues	7	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Wed	8	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Thurs	9	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Fri	10	9.00 am	Mass: Alan Neel RIP
Sat	11	6.00 pm	Mass: All Parishioners
Sun	12	8.30 am	Mass: Sheila Murphy RIP

**Facts and Figures:** 150 people gathered for Mass last Sunday and gave £453.11 to the collection at Mass. Bank Standing orders added £127.30. The CAFOD soup plate received £65.11. Thank you for your offerings.

The **Frinton & Walton Women's Group** will meet on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 2.30pm in St Cedd's Hall, Old Road, Frinton for afternoon tea and a quiz. New members welcome.

The **Journey in Faith** group will meet in the Presbytery on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30 pm

Revd Dr John Turner will speak on "**A Glimpse of Georgia**" at the meeting of the Fellowship of St Alban and St Sergius on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February in St Cedd's Hall, Old Road, Frinton at 7.30 p.m. All welcome.

Anyone who would like to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp (£2.50 per week) is invited to leave a written message with Fr Michael.

It look as though we shall not receive the traditional Parish diary for 2012. Following several unanswered telephone messages a visit was made to the publishers. Their premises seem unoccupied and it may be that they have gone out of business.

"**The Vigil**" by Ladislav Fodor is being presented by the Emmanuel Church Drama Group in Emmanuel Church, New Pier Street on Fridays 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March and Saturdays 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm. Admission will be free with a retiring collection for Little Havens

Children's Hospice and Lifeboats. There will be a guest appearances of one of our parishioners.

Dom Henry Wansbrough, O.S.B., of Ampleforth Abbey, renowned biblical scholar and author, (who writes the weekly commentary in The Wednesday Word) will speak about the **Acts of the Apostles** at a special study day in Brentwood Cathedral Hall on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March from 10.30 a.m. until 3p.m. Admission is free and lunch is provided, but please book your place by email to [cef@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:cef@dioceseofbrentwood.org) or by phone to 01277 265289.