

St Anne Line Catholic Church

WELCOME to the weekly newsletter
of the Catholic Church of St Anne
Line in South Woodford!

Parish Priest: Fr Bartolomeu Blaj
Deacon: Rev Alan Mair



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4th Sunday of Advent – Year C

Fr Barto's message of the week

The 4th Sunday of Advent presents Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth, highlighting the recognition of Mary's child as the long-awaited Savior. This visitation links two important annunciation accounts in Luke's Gospel, highlighting the faith of both women—Mary, who trusts in God's promise, and Elizabeth, who recognizes Mary's unique role. When Mary greets Elizabeth, the unborn John the Baptist leaps for joy, signaling the divine recognition of Jesus. Elizabeth calls Mary "blessed," as she believes in the fulfillment of God's promises.

This event emphasizes Mary's faith and humility, as she, despite being the mother of the Son of God, goes to serve her cousin. It shows that Jesus, even before His birth, comes to serve rather than be served. Luke portrays Mary as a model believer who trusts in God's word, despite not fully understanding its implications at the time. The visit of the Virgin Mary to her cousin Elisabeth marks a moment of divine grace and foreshadows the joy of the coming Christmas celebration.

CHRISTMAS AND THE YEAR OF JUBILLE

The Nativity of Jesus Christ, this year, is marked by the opening of the year of jubilee on Christmas Eve, December 24th 2024. The invitation of pope Francis to live as "PEREGRINANTES IN SPEM", "Pilgrims of Hope", should awaken in us the obligation to live our vocation as Christians, received in the Baptism, and to bear witness to it.

The presence of Jesus Christ in our world, in our history, who takes on the form of a human being, in fact, is the beginning of the fulfillment of our Hope.

I wish you to be true pilgrims of hope, to live The Year of Jubilee 2025 with all your faith taking advantage of different activities the Church organizes throughout the year.

Thank you for being part of this beautiful parish and for your involvement for the good of the community.

Have a wonderful, Holy and Happy Christmas.

Fr Barto & Rev Alan.

Mass Intentions 21st December – 29th December

Saturday 21st

9.30am Fr Barto Ints

6.30pm Atal/Singh family Ints Sunday Vigil Mass

Sunday 22nd - 4th Sunday Advent

9.30am People of the Parish

11am Anne Hanrahan RIP

12.30pm Holy Mass in Romanian

Monday 23rd

9.30am Ana Edviges Godinho RIP

Tuesday 24th

9.30am Fr Peter Bretaudeau RIP

6pm Jesse (Advent) tree intentions
(Vigil Mass of Christmas)

8pm Holy Mass in Romanian

10.30pm For the Sick & Housebound
(Midnight Mass)

Wednesday 25th – Christmas Day

10am Rev Alan Mair Ints

11.30am Fr Barto Ints (Holy Mass in Romanian)

Thursday 26th – St Stephen

9.30am Lee family (In Thanksgiving)

11.30am Holy Mass in Romanian

Friday 27th

9.30am Robert Kirby RIP

Saturday 28th

9.30am Fr Barto Ints

6.30pm Valentina Ribeiro RIP Sunday Vigil Mass

Sunday 29th – Holy Family

9.30am Michael Doyle RIP

11am People of the Parish

12.30pm Holy Mass in Romanian

Exposition of the Blessed Holy Eucharist is at 9am from
Wednesday to Saturday. Rosary will be prayed after
morning Mass from Wednesday to Saturday.

Confession is after weekday morning Mass (Wednesday to
Saturday) on Saturday evening before the 6.30pm Vigil
Mass and on Sunday before the Holy Masses. Confessions
can be heard in English, Italian, Spanish and Romanian.

POINSETTIA'S FOR THE CHURCH

Please bring a potted poinsettia to be placed around the Crib.

THANK YOU

To everyone who helped in the Christmas celebrations: the altar servers, readers, musicians, stewards, flower arrangers and cleaners.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

As in all parishes, the Christmas collection is your personal gift to your parish priest.

CRIB OFFERINGS

There will be no retiring collections over Christmas – you are encouraged to make donations to Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS) through Crib Offerings. Donations can be placed in the fire extinguisher next to the crib.

IF YOU ARE NOT RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

If you wish to come up for a blessing instead, please indicate this by crossing both arms across your chest.

NATIVITY PLAY

Thank you to the children who took part and the parents who supported the nativity play. A big thank you to the organisers who spent many hours with the children during rehearsals and making their costumes.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The next session after Christmas is on Sunday 12 January in the hall. First reconciliation will be on Sunday 19 January at 3pm in Church.

Thank you to the parishioners who have agreed to be prayer sponsors. There is a box in the porch for you to place correspondence.

ALTAR SERVERS MEETING

Next meeting on Sunday 12 Jan, 4pm in Church.

WEEKLY MASS ATTENDANCE FORMS

Are available in the porch as you enter for the Sacraments, (FHC & Confirmation) and for nursery, primary & secondary Catholic Schools. Complete one per child and drop the completed form into the box provided as you leave Church.

SACRED HEART NOVENA

Next First Friday Novena starts at 8.45am with Confession and Adoration on 3 Jan 2025.

SATURDAY DEVOTIONS TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Next First Saturday devotion on 4 January 2025 and continues until 7 June 2025 starts from 5:30pm with Adoration, Confession, praying the Rosary, followed by the 6:30pm Mass. Each Sunday, the statue will be passed to a new household. If you would like to welcome Our Lady into your home, please sign up for January to March 2025 at the back of the church.

BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2025

On sale in the porch. £3.20. Money to be placed in the wall box.

WITH THANKS

A big thank you to the Parish for supporting the Youth SVP Christmas card and sock sale at the last coffee morning as well as the food bank donations made on the day.

In total, 12 bags of food donations were delivered to the Ilford centre this week with an additional financial donation of £133 from the sales proceeds.

MEDJUGORIE PILGRIMAGES (13-20 May 2025 and 9-16 September 2025)

The total cost for the May pilgrimage is £750 and the September pilgrimage is £760. A £30 discount will be given to those who book and pay a £150 deposit before the end of January 2025. To book phone Gail on 07989 879148 or email gail.hewett@hotmail.com.

LECTIO DIVINA is prayed after Friday morning mass in the parish hall. All are welcome to come along to find out more.

PARISH SOCIAL EVENTS

Coffee morning will be on 12 January 2025 after the 9.30am and 11am Masses.

Afternoon Club Next meeting on Wednesday 15 January at 2pm in the hall.

Table tennis. Back after Christmas on 10 January. Contact Liz on 07403 649306.

Last weekend Mass attendance was 227. Thank you very much for the collection for the flowers.

Get in touch

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Find us online

Church website: www.saintanneline.com

Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/SaintAnneLine>

Diocese of Brentwood website:

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/>



PARISH OFFICE

Closed over the Christmas period.

Please pray for those who are sick

Anniversaries 23 Dec - 29 Dec

Elizabeth Karley, Margaret Walton, Patrick Oates, Eilish Laar, George Booth, Charles William Long, Mrs Noble, Mr Kelleher, Jim Martin, Alice Doyle, Leonard German, Joseph Lavery, William J Barry, Agnes Tilley, Mrs J King, Albert Hodges, Emily Magorian, Irena Powichrowska, Mr Cassidy, Mary Healey, Joyce Collins.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

David Gilbert who died on 27 November. His funeral will be held here on Wednesday 8 Jan at 11am.

DONATIONS FOR THE HOMELESS

(To be left on the table by the organ loft)

- Jumpers, tee-shirts, fleeces, underwear jackets - all sizes
- Joggers, jeans, socks all sizes
- Toiletries (shower gel, deodorant, razor)
- Bleach, anti-bacterial hand wash, laundry detergent (liquid)

No formal clothes or formal shoes - and - no children's clothes needed.

For a Christmas in Peace - Pope Francis

In these days leading up to Christmas, I invite everyone to renew our supplication to the Lord, asking Him to grant the gift of peace to our world. We pray together.

Please also check the notice boards in the porch for other news and information.

Please use the QR code for your weekly offertory. It is a safe and easy method to donate. Do Gift Aid if you are a Taxpayer.

