

# St Anne Line Catholic Church

A registered Charity. No. 230492

**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



**vol. 58 no. 43    26<sup>th</sup> October 2025    30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C**

## *Message of the week*

'The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds'. Last Sunday's readings were about persistence in prayer or to pray continually without losing heart.

This Sunday we reflect on another aspect of prayer, that is, "humility." The book of Ecclesiasticus says 'The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds' which means that this prayer will reach God's ear in heaven. But what does it mean to be humble? What is the prayer of the humble? The Responsorial Psalm gives us a clue when it says, 'This poor man called; the Lord has heard him' To acknowledge our poverty and need of God's help is the first requirement to pray to God. The tax collector in today's gospel reflects that humble attitude, as he recognises his poverty in the sense that he sees and accepts that he is a sinner, someone who chose money over family and nation for different reasons. Perhaps he thought he had no choice but to live as one of the Roman Empire tax collectors and accept to be hated by his own people. He acknowledges he is not living according to the Law and deep inside does not want to live in this way and asks God's mercy.

I can easily think or picture two of the tax collectors that Jesus met in his life, Zacchaeus and Matthew. Both of these tax collectors had changed their lives after listening Jesus' preaching. Zacchaeus said he would give back 4 times what he had stolen from his people and Matthew followed Jesus as his disciple. The prayer of the humble reaches the ear of the Lord, because it is cry for help amid struggles and sufferings which at times humanly speaking are impossible to overcome. In this cry for help or thanksgiving the humble person has faith in God and hopes that the Lord will act and attend their cry. Jesus' example of the prayer of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector reflects clearly the contrast between praying with humility and prayer with arrogance or spiritual pride. The prayer of the Pharisee is not really a prayer to God but rather a self-praise of his own good fulfilment of the precepts of the Law that justifies him. His prayer is focus on himself; in other words, his prayer is self-centred. Instead, the tax collector's prayer is marked by his acknowledgment of his sinful state and asking for mercy from the Lord.

The prayer of the tax collector is directed towards God, to heaven. In the case of the Pharisee's prayer, his focus also goes to the judging his neighbours as he says, thank you Lord for I am not an extortionist and adulterer or sinner like this tax collector. Notice that the Pharisee is totally blind to his own sins by not acknowledging his own that is worst as he condemns the tax collector and puts himself in the place of God as Judge. Therefore, his prayer is not heard by God since he himself has put in that place of God. Let us learn to pray in humility and put ourselves in the right place before entering into prayer with our focus on the Lord and our woundedness and the need of his love rather than taken the place of God by judging others or arrogantly demanding that the Lord should respond immediately to our demands.

## *Rev Alan*

### **PARISH SOCIAL EVENTS**

**Afternoon Club** Meet in the hall at 2pm on **Wednesday 5 Nov 2025**

**Fundraising Coffee morning** on Sunday **9 November** organized by the Catholic Fellowship after the 9.30am and 11am Masses in the hall. Christmas cards will be on sale.

**Parish Youth Group (11-18) –15th November** in the Parish Hall at the earlier time of 4pm.

**Christmas Bazaar – 16 November** in the Parish Hall, 10.20am-2pm

**Table tennis.** Every Friday 3-5pm. Contact Liz on 07403 649306

## **Mass Intentions 25<sup>th</sup> Oct – 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 2025**

### **Saturday 25th *Sunday Vigil Mass***

**9.30am Geraldine Soosay Ints**

**6.30pm Evelyn Nee RIP**

### **Sunday 26th *30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time***

**9.30am Mair family**

**11am People of the Parish**

**12.30pm Holy Mass in Romanian**

### **Monday 27th (celebrated privately)**

**Robert Balchin (anniv)**

### **Tuesday 28th**

**7pm Charles Lee (anniv)**

### **Wednesday 29th**

**9.30am Berta Ramirez (anniv)**

### **Thursday 30th**

**9.30am Holy Souls**

### **Friday 31st**

**9.30am Mary Lynch RIP**

### **Saturday 1st *Sunday Vigil Mass***

**9.30am Fr Slawomir Hermanowicz RIP**

**6.30pm Petre RIP**

### **Sunday 2nd *All Saints***

**9.30am People of the Parish**

**11am Brian Mitchell (ill)**

**12.30pm Holy Mass in Romanian**

### **From Wednesday to Saturday**

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament *8.45am.***

**Morning prayer *9.10am***

**Holy Rosary *10.00am***

**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, Spanish and Romanian.

### **LECTIO DIVINA**

We pray Lectio Divina after morning mass each Friday in the parish hall. Come along and find out more.

### **CHILDREN'S LITURGY- TERM TIME ONLY**

No children's liturgy on 26 Oct & 2 Nov. The children's Liturgy for Primary School Children will be start on Sunday 9 November at 11am.

### **CHILDREN'S MASS**

Will be on Sunday 16 November at 11am.

### **ALTAR SERVERS MEETING. 9 NOVEMBER at 4pm**

For new and existing altar servers in Church.

### **THURSDAY 21 NOVEMBER DAY OF ADORATION for CHRIST THE KING. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.**

The Church will be opened for adoration from 10am to 7pm, with Holy Mass at 7pm. If you can be in Church for an hour or two between 10am and 7pm, please sign up on the sheet at the back of Church.

## NOVEMBER – MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

**This weekend** there will be a box at the back of the Church for the list of names of departed relatives and friends that you would like prayed for. The lists will rest at the altar throughout November. There will be a second collection on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2 November for Masses for Holy Souls which will be said throughout the year.

### **ALL SOULS DAY . Monday 3 November**

Mass will be celebrated at 9.30am and 7pm.

### **MISSIO RED BOXES**

Many thanks to all parishioners who have returned their red boxes. These have been counted and we have received £347.37 for Missio. Thank you for your generosity. Could those parishioners who have not been able to return them yet please do so as soon as possible. Please ensure that they are handed in to the sacristy and not left at the back of the church. There are new red boxes available to take from the porch area..

### **RETIRING COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND FOR Pact (Prison Advice & Care Trust)**

The national Catholic charity providing support to prisoners, people with convictions and their children and families. If you are a tax payer please use the PACT envelopes in the porch.

### **WEEKLY MASS ATTENDANCE FORMS**

It is **imperative** that you complete this form for the Sacraments, (FHC & Confirmation) and for nursery, primary & secondary Catholic Schools. Forms are in the porch.

### **FRIDAY DEVOTIONS TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS – 7 November**

This continues monthly on every first Friday of the month until the feast of the Sacred Heart in June 2026 .If you would like to have the Statue of the Sacred Heart in your home for a week, please sign up at the back of the Church.

### **SATURDAY DEVOTIONS TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY- 8 November**

For 8 consecutive first Saturdays (until 6 June 2026) from 5:30pm there will be Adoration, Confession, recital of the Rosary, followed by the 6:30pm Mass.. If you would like to welcome Our Lady into your home for a week, please sign up at the back of the church.

### **YOUTH GROUP – ALL THINGS ADVENT**

Our next group session will be on Saturday **15 November** in the Parish Hall at the earlier time of 4pm. We will be looking at the season of Advent and preparing ourselves for Christmas. Festive fun and crafts will be included! We will also be helping to set up for the Parish Bazaar.

### **CHRISTMAS HAMPER**

On sale next weekend at all Masses. £1 per ticket.

### **CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 16 NOVEMBER 10.30am – 2pm**

Fundraising Christmas bazaar in the hall. Donations of bottles urgently needed. If you can help with the donations or on the day please contact Tina Marrai.

### **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY for PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN**

On Sunday 7 December 2-4pm £6 per child. Please pay using the QR code on the poster in the porch by 30 November. Contact Michelle Jeyes on 07900 924 844 if you have queries.

### **CHRISTMAS NATIVITY PLAY- SATURDAY 20 DECEMBER**

**Next rehearsal Sunday 9 November at 2pm in the hall.** Children of all ages are invited to take part in this year's Nativity. Contact Tina Marrai for further information on 07941 227743.

### **CHURCH CLEANERS URGENTLY NEEDED**

All we need is 1 hour every 6 weeks of your time to keep our Church clean. Contact Mary on 07949 692 093.

### **HELP NEEDED WITH CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

No experience needed just a passion to work with children. Please contact Lynne on 07903 852375 for more information.

### **READERS AT MASS URGENTLY NEEDED.**

We urgently require volunteer readers at Sunday Masses. Please contact Maggie on 07973 414 913.

### **QUIZ NIGHT**

Many thanks to Tina for organizing a very enjoyable evening. Over £600 was raised for the Parish Maintenance fund. Thank you to everyone who helped and supported this event.

### **BI-ANNUAL CONCELEBRATED REQUIEM MASS**

at St. Patrick's Cemetery, Leytonstone E11 4HL, will be on Monday 10th November at 11.30.am

### **DONATIONS FOR THE HOMELESS**

Please see list of items needed in the porch

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR**

Sean Farrell who died recently. His funeral will be held here on 6 November at 11.30am. May he rest in peace.

Last weekend Mass attendance was 284. Thank you for your offerings in last week's collection including the collection for Missio.

## St Anne Line Catholic Church

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### Find us online

Church website: [www.saintanneline.com](http://www.saintanneline.com)

Facebook page:

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

Diocese of Brentwood website:

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



### **YEAR OF JUBILEE**

Web resources - 1) Pilgrims of Hope - <https://saintanneline.com/year-of-jubilee-pilgrims-of-hope/> 2) The Word - <https://saintanneline.com/parish-bulletins/>

### **YEAR OF JUBILEE APP**

The 'jubilee25' app can be downloaded to your phones.



### **Pope Leo on World Mission Sunday**

Pope Leo asks every parish to support World Mission Sunday. See his video at <https://saintanneline.com/>

### **Pope Leo - Dilecti Te**

First encyclical from Pope Leo - check our web page

<https://saintanneline.com/blog-2/>

### **Please pray for those who are sick**

#### **Anniversaries 27 Oct– 2 Nov**

Margaret Washbourne, H Simpson, EW Bass, James Donnelly, Peter McEvoy, Louisa Orgill-Adams, William Carter, Vincent Farrell, Mary Ginty, Sarah J Poul & Mafadda Smith, John O'Rielly, Capt. G Connolly, Thomas McCarthy, Marie Hale, Victor Laar.

### **PARISH OFFICE (IN THE PRESBYTERY)**

The Parish secretary is in the office on Monday afternoons (not on Bank holidays), all day Wednesday and Friday mornings.

### **CARDS & MASS CARDS FOR SALE IN THE PORCH**

Please leave the money in the wall box.

**Please check the notice boards in the porch and our parish website for other news and information.**

### **King Charles meets Pope Leo**

For details of this historic meeting please see the Vatican website.

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>

### **Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network is at**

[clicktopray.org](http://clicktopray.org)

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.

