

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 Celestine Onwuekwe

Deacon: Rev Alan Mair



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Palm Sunday – Year A

Message of the week

Today we begin the most sacred week of the Church year. Palm Sunday holds two striking moments in tension: joyful praise and solemn sorrow.

At the beginning of Mass, we hear of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The crowds wave palm branches and cry out, "Hosanna!" They welcome Him as king. Yet only moments later, we proclaim the Passion narrative from the Gospel of Matthew. The same city that shouts "Hosanna" will soon cry, "Crucify him."

Palm Sunday invites us to examine our own hearts. It is easy to praise Christ when faith feels uplifting and hopeful. It is more difficult to remain with Him in suffering, confusion, and sacrifice. The Passion reminds us that discipleship is not only about celebration but also about fidelity.

In Matthew's account, we see Jesus betrayed, denied, mocked, scourged, and crucified. He stands silent before Pilate. He carries the cross. He forgives. Even from the cross, He entrusts Himself completely to the Father.

This week, we are not spectators to these events. We are participants. Our voices are part of the crowd. Our sins are part of the weight of the cross. Yet so too is God's mercy poured out for us.

As we enter Holy Week, let us walk closely with Christ:

In humility on Holy Thursday

In reverence on Good Friday

In hope at the Easter Vigil

Do not let this week pass as just another busy stretch of days. Make time for prayer. Make time for the liturgies. Stand at the foot of the cross. And prepare your heart for the joy of the Resurrection.

Holy Week Schedule

Holy Thursday 2nd April

9:30 AM Morning Prayer
8:00 PM - Mass of the Lord's Supper
Adoration following Mass until Midnight

Good Friday 3rd April

9:30 AM Morning Prayer
11:00 AM Family Stations of the Cross
12 PM Joint Churches Passion on George Lane
3:00 PM – The Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday 4th April

9:30 AM Morning Prayer
7:30 PM – Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday 5th April

9:30 AM Holy Mass
11:00 AM Holy Mass

Rev Alan

PARISH SOCIAL EVENTS

Afternoon Club will meet on 8 April from 2-4pm in the hall.

Coffee morning on 12 April after both 9.30 and 11am Masses in the hall.

Youth SVP Group – Saturday 9th May – 7.30pm : Game Challenge Night. £5 entry.

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

Mass Intentions 28th Mar– 5th April 2026

Saturday 28th Sunday Vigil Mass

9.30am Celebrant's Ints

6.30pm Jerome Philomin RIP

Sunday 29th Palm Sunday

9.30am Louis, Phelomena & Deceased Wong family

11am People of the Parish

Monday 30th (Mass is celebrated privately)

Holy Souls

Tuesday 31st

9.30am Shelagh Dewhurst (2nd anniv)

Wednesday 1st April

NO HOLY MASS

Thursday 2nd Maundy Thursday

8pm Lenten Intentions

Friday 3rd Good Friday

12 noon Ecumenical service George Lane

3pm Passion of the Lord

Saturday 4th Holy Saturday

7.30pm People of the Parish

Sunday 5th Easter Sunday

9.30am Celebrant's Ints

11am Deceased Parishioners & Friends

Confession is after weekday morning Mass from Tuesday to Saturday and by appointment.

From Maundy Thursday to Holy Saturday
Morning prayer 9.30am

LECTIO DIVINA

We pray Lectio Divina after morning mass each Friday at 10am in the parish hall. Come along and find out more. (There will be no Lectio Divina on Good Friday)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Takes place during term time only.

Fr Celestine is available in the office

Tuesdays 10-12pm

Fridays 7-9pm

OUR COMMON HOME: ENGAGING POLITICIANS

6:30pm, April 13th - Online with Bishop John Arnold, The Diocesan Environmental Leads Network & Friends.

Caritas Brentwood would like to invite you to an online gathering offering guidance and help in engaging our local politicians in dialogue about defending our common home.

With the May local elections fast approaching, now is an important time to let politicians know your views on climate and justice.

Register here:

<https://tinyurl.com/delpolitics>

THIS WEEKEND RETIRING COLLECTION – EASTER LILIES

There will be a box at the back of Church to place the names of your deceased relatives and friends. Their names will be placed in a burse before the altar at Easter and Mass will be celebrated for them on Easter Sunday. All donations will be for Church flowers.

MASS of CHRISM at BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL

There will be no morning Mass here on Wednesday 1st April as Fr Celestine will be attending the Mass of Chrism at 11am at the Cathedral. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

RETIRING COLLECTIONS NEXT WEEK

Good Friday – for Holy Places

Holy Saturday & Easter Sunday – as is customary within the Diocese, this will be your Easter Gift to the Parish priest.

LENTEN ALMS & INTENTIONS

Pieces of paper are available at the back of the Church to be placed in the basket at the Sanctuary for our Lenten intentions. We will be donating our Lenten Alms to 'Aid to the Church in Need' for its various projects in the poorest areas. The red fire extinguisher will be used for the collections.

LAST CHANCE to buy tickets for THE EASTER HAMPER

The draw will take place after the 11am Mass this Sunday.

YOUTH GROUP – REDBRIDGE FOOD BANK COLLECTION – THANK YOU!

The group would like to thank the Parish for the support and generosity at the fundraising coffee morning earlier this month. In total, the group collected 13 bags of donated food and £225 of financial donations for the Food Bank. This collection forms part of the group's Lenten theme : to share their time to help others around them. Last week, some more members of the group volunteered their time with a second visit to the Food Bank to help prepare items for visiting clients.

EASTER CARDS

Many thanks to the Confirmation and the Youth SVP who distributed the Easter cards last weekend.

BAPTISM COURSE

Next sessions for parents who would like to have their child baptized on 31 March. Meet in the hall at 6.30pm.

CONFIRMATION

Next confirmation session is **on Friday 24th April** at 5.15pm in the Parish Hall. Please note that this date has been amended.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

If you would like to be received into the Church and become a Catholic, please speak to Fr Celestine.

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.

ACCOUNTS FOR THE PARISH

The last 2 years accounts is now on the notice board.

HELP NEEDED

Volunteers who can help with clearing/weeding and general maintenance of the two flower beds from March. Please contact Tina Marrai 07941 227 743

STATUES OF OUR LADY & SACRED HEART OF JESUS

If you would like to welcome the blessed statues into your home, please speak to Fr Celestine.

DIOCESAN 2026 DIRECTORY

These are on sale at £3.20 each in the porch. Money in the 'publication' wall box in the porch.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY CELEBRATION

To be held on 12th April at 1:15pm at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Leyton, E10 5ES.

The celebration will include Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, devotional prayers, and a Healing Mass. Please join us for this sacred time of prayer and reflection. Refreshments will be served in the Jubilee Centre following the celebration."

SAVE THE DATE – ISABELLE KIRBY, PROFESSING OF PERPETUAL VOWS

On Saturday 1 August, at Church of the Most Sacred Heart, Ruislip. More details to follow.

FLAME, WEMBLEY ARENA, MARCH 2027

Join thousands of other young Catholics for a concert filled with Inspiring speakers, live music, prayer and adoration. Tickets are going fast and the early bird discount ends soon. £30 per

Last weekend Mass attendance was 234. Thank you very much for the collection for last weekend and your standing orders for January.



Pope Leo - Dilexit Te

First encyclical from Pope Leo - click link <https://saintanneline.com/blog-2/>

Please pray for those who are sick

Anniversaries 30 March– 5 April

Canon Toft, George Colquhoun, Mrs Irwin, Lydia Pinagli, George Charles, Elizabeth Middleton, Margaret Thouw, Delia Ryder, Shelagh Dewhurst, Gerard Casey, Mrs Martin, Mary Healy, Fr Ronald Roberts, Canon Charles Loughran Mr E Wintermantel, Lena Emblem, Bridget Neary and Patricia Pearce. .

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.

FR CELESTINE'S CONTACT DETAILS

Email: celestineiheme2016@gmail.com

Mobile: 07440 394 171

Vatican Brief: Pope renews appeal for peace and ceasefire in Middle East. Pope Leo XIV issues a brief statement to journalists in Castel Gandolfo, renewing his appeal to "work for peace, not with weapons," and denouncing the rise in hatred, violence, and death. See [Vatican News](#) for full article.

Pope Leo XIV has sent a message to Sarah Mullally on the occasion of her installation as Archbishop of Canterbury, assuring her of his prayers and invoking "grace, mercy, and peace... in truth and love". (from Vatican News)

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Find us online

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Facebook page:

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

Diocese of Brentwood website:

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

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