

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



vol. 59 no. 14 5th April 2026

Easter Sunday – Year A

Message of the week

Christ is risen! Alleluia!
He is truly risen! Alleluia!

On this most sacred and radiant day, the Church proclaims the central mystery of our faith: Jesus Christ, who was crucified, has been raised from the dead. This is not simply a past event we remember, but a living reality we enter into. The Resurrection stands at the heart of the Paschal Mystery—the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord—through which the salvation of the world has been accomplished.

The Mystery of the Resurrection

In rising from the dead, Christ has not merely returned to earthly life, as in the case of Lazarus; rather, He has passed over into a new and glorified existence. The Resurrection is the definitive victory over sin and death, revealing that death no longer has dominion over Him. As Saint Paul proclaims, “If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain” (1 Corinthians 15:14). But Christ has been raised, and in Him, we too are promised new life.

The empty tomb is not only a sign of what has happened to Christ, but also a promise of what is to come for us. Through our Baptism, we are mystically united with Him in His death, so that we may also share in His Resurrection. This is why the Church calls Easter not merely a feast, but the “Feast of feasts,” the day that gives meaning to every other day.

Living the Resurrection

Easter invites us into transformation. The Risen Christ calls each of us by name, just as He called Mary Magdalene in the garden. He meets us in our confusion, our doubts, and even our fears, and speaks peace into our hearts: “Do not be afraid.”

To live as an Easter people means to:

- Walk in the light of faith, even when the path is uncertain.
- Trust in God’s mercy, which is greater than our sins.
- Bear witness to hope in a world often marked by despair.
- Recognize Christ present among us—in the Scriptures, in the Eucharist, and in one another.

The Eucharist: Encounter with the Risen Lord

Each time we gather for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, we do not simply recall the Resurrection—we participate in it. The same Risen Christ becomes truly present in the Eucharist, offering Himself to us as spiritual nourishment. In receiving His Body and Blood, we are drawn more deeply into His divine life and sent forth to be His presence in the world.

Easter Season: Fifty Days of Joy

Our celebration does not end today. The Church rejoices for fifty days, culminating in Pentecost. This sacred season is an invitation to deepen our understanding of the Resurrection and to grow in the grace we have received. Let us remain steadfast in prayer, attentive to God’s Word, and active in charity.

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.

There will be a cake and table top sale that morning too.

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

Murder at the Masquerade Ball on 6 June at 7.30pm.

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

Mass Intentions 4th April– 12th April 2026

Saturday 4th *Holy Saturday*

7.30pm People of the Parish

Sunday 5th *Easter Sunday*

9.30am Celebrant’s Ints

11am Deceased Parishioners & Friends

Monday 6th *(Mass is celebrated privately)*

Holy Souls

Tuesday 7th

9.30am Rose Cotter RIP

Wednesday 8th April

9.30am Jude Oronsaye Ints

Thursday 9th April

9.30am Jude Oronsaye Ints

Friday 10th April

9.30am Mary Lynch RIP

Saturday 11th *Sunday Vigil Mass*

9.30am Graham Howes (anniv)

6.30pm Celebrant’s Ints

Sunday 12th *2nd Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy*

9.30am People of the Parish

11am John & Dymphna O’Connor RIP

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

From Tuesday to Friday

Morning prayer 9.20am

Holy Rosary 10am

HOLY HOUR OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursday 10-11am

LECTIO DIVINA

We pray Lectio Divina after morning mass each Friday at 10am in the parish hall. Come along and find out more.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY

Takes place during term time only. The next session after the holidays

is Sunday 19 April at the 9.30am Mass,

Fr Celestine is available in the office

Tuesdays 10-12pm

Fridays 7-9pm

THANK YOU

A very big thank you to everyone who helped to make the church beautiful this Easter. Particular thanks to Rev Alan, the choir, readers, servers, flower arrangers, cleaners, gardeners and the stewards.

COLLECTION EASTER SUNDAY

By long standing custom in the Diocese of Brentwood, this is your gift to the parish priest.

IF YOU ARE NOT RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

Non-Catholics and those not practising their Faith may come for a blessing at Holy Communion time if they wish. Please indicate by crossing both arms across your chest.

CONFIRMATION

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

EASTER HAMPER DRAW

Thank you to everyone who bought tickets for the Easter draw. A total of £412 was raised for the Parish maintenance fund. A huge thank you to Tina Marrai for organising the draw.

FR CELESTINE AWAY

Fr Celestine will be away on annual holiday from next Wednesday. In his absence, please welcome Fr John Tuohy, Fr Jijo George and Fr Philip Amek who will be supplying here.

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

PLANTS WANTED

Donations of plants needed for the flower bed in front of Church. Please contact Tina Marrai 07941 227 743 if you can help.

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.

MISSIO COLLECTION 2025

Total offerings to Missio for 2025 was £1,367.40 This includes donations via Red Boxes, Direct Debits and Contactless payments. Thank you for your generosity.

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. With Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, devotional prayers, and a Healing Mass. Refreshments will be served in the Jubilee Centre following the celebration."

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

At St John Vianney, Clayhall, on 12 April 2025 from 1pm and ending with Mass at 5pm, it will comprise Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, recitation of St Faustina's Praises, the Litany of the Divine Mercy, the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy and the Holy Rosary, Confession. Refreshments will be available. Address 1 Stoneleigh Road, Clayhall IG5 0HE.

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.

MARRIAGE SUPPORT

From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues - If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. To find out more: www.retrouvaille.org.uk +44 797 338 0443

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 ticket. Contact jacinta.balchin@tintabee.co.uk to sign up for a place and further details.

DONATIONS FOR THE HOMELESS (COLLECTED FOR THE FRANCISCAN FRIARS)

Please see list of items needed in the porch.

Last weekend Mass attendance was 274. Thank you very much for the collection for last weekend as well as the collection for Easter Lilies and standing orders for January.

St Anne Line Catholic Church

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Find us online

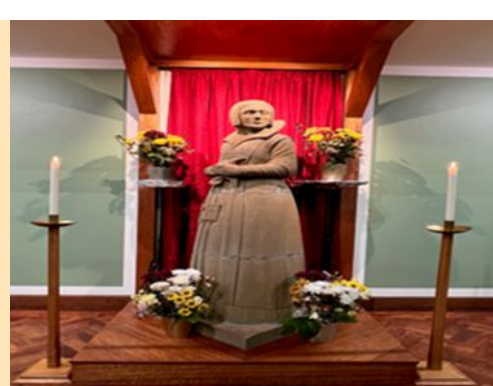
Church website: www.saintanneline.com

Facebook page:

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

Diocese of Brentwood website:

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



Pope Leo - Dilexit Te

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

Please pray for those who are sick

Anniversaries 6 April- 12 April

Des Hannigan, Dennis Croke, Dorothy Hawley, Daniel Dennehy, Thomas Healy, Catherine Duggan, Mary Dudley, Fr Thomas Adkins, Mary Abraham, Harry Murphy, Mrs Brennan, Margaret Merkert, Mabel German, Elizabeth Ham, Elsie Carter, Eric Scrutton, James Suckling Peter Connell and Kathleen Blanchfield.

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.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome!! Please introduce yourself to Fr Celestine and Rev Alan. Also complete a registration and GDPR form found in the porch and return to the Parish Office once completed.

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

Pope's prayer intention for April:

For priests in crisis:

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

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.

