

# 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. 21 24th May 2026 Pentecost – Year A

## *Message of the week*

Today we celebrate the great feast of Pentecost, the day the Church was born and the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles. As we hear in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 2:1–11), the disciples, once fearful and uncertain, were filled with courage and power. They went out to proclaim the Good News to all nations—and the world was never the same. We are blessed also today to pray with and for twelve of our young people who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. May they continue their lives strengthened and renewed by the Sacrament.

Pentecost reminds us that the Church is not just a human institution, but a living body animated by the Holy Spirit. The same Spirit who came upon the apostles is given to each one of us, especially through the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. In the Gospel from the Gospel of John, Jesus breathes on His disciples and says, “Receive the Holy Spirit.” This breath is the life of God within us, guiding, strengthening, and renewing us each day.

The gifts of the Holy Spirit—wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord—are not distant ideals. They are practical helps for daily living:

- Wisdom helps us see life from God’s perspective
- Courage (fortitude) strengthens us in times of difficulty
- Counsel guides us in making good decisions
- Piety draws us closer to God in love and reverence

Pentecost is not just an event of the past—it is a reality for today. The Spirit continues to work in our lives, in our parish, and in the wider world. Wherever there is love, reconciliation, truth, and service, the Holy Spirit is present.

As a parish community, we are called to be people of Pentecost: open to the Spirit, ready to serve, and courageous in sharing our faith. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to renew our hearts and to rekindle in us the fire of God’s love.

**“Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.”**

*Rev Alan*

### **PARISH SOCIAL EVENTS**

**Afternoon Club** will meet on 3 June from 2-4pm in the hall.

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

**Summer BBQ**- 4 July from 12-4pm.

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

## **Mass Intentions 23<sup>rd</sup> May – 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026**

**Saturday 23rd Sunday Vigil Mass**

9.30am Holy Souls

6.30pm People of the Parish

**Sunday 24th Pentecost Sunday**

9.30am Elena Martin RIP

11am Confirmation candidates and families

**Monday 25th (celebrated privately)**

Holy Souls

**Tuesday 26th**

9.30am Alan & Catherine Mair RIP (silver wedding anniv)

**Wednesday 27th**

9.30am Rosa & Nicolo Federico RIP

**Thursday 28th**

9.30am Teresa Harr RIP

**Friday 29th**

9.30am Holy Souls

**Saturday 30th Sunday Vigil Mass**

9.30am Celebrants Ints

6.30pm Jerome Philomin & family RIP

**Sunday 31st Most Holy Trinity**

9.30am People of the Parish

11am Joan Hinkins Ints

**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**

No Children’s Liturgy during half term. It resumes on 7 June at the 11am Mass.

**BAPTISM & RCIA** Speak to Fr Celestine and Rev Alan. For Baptism it is essential that you make contact with us as soon as possible to ensure that Diocesan requirements are fulfilled and a suitable date can be placed in the diary.

**MARRIAGES** We welcome the marriage of parishioners and those who regularly worship here. Please notify Fr Celestine or Rev Alan at least six months in advance to allow adequate time for preparation.

**Fr Celestine is available in the office**

Tuesdays 10-12pm

Fridays 7-9pm

**FR CELESTINE’S CONTACT DETAILS:**

Email: celestineiheme2016@gmail.com

Mobile: 07440 394 171

## **CONSECRATION OF ST ANNE LINE CHURCH**

With thanks to everyone who helped at the Consecration of the Church last Sunday. Rev Alan, the servers, the organist and choir, the flower arrangers, the cleaners, the stewards, the Social committee. We thank Bishop Alan for celebrating the solemn Mass, Fr Francis Coveney, Fr Barto Blaj and parishioners for attending this very special event for our Church.

## **CONFIRMATION**

There will be a Pentecost Vigil on **Saturday, 23 May** starting at 6pm. Parishioners are invited to attend. On **Sunday 24 May**, Pentecost Sunday, 12 young adults will be confirmed at the 11am Mass. Please keep them in your prayers. There will be refreshments after the Confirmation Mass and parishioners are invited to attend.

## **CONFIRMATION -Intention to take photos**

In line with the parish Photography & Filming policy, we are giving notice that photos may be taken at the Confirmation Mass on 24 May 2026. With the subjects' consent, some photos may be used on the parish website and/or social media pages. Parishioners taking photos, are reminded that they should not post on social media, photos of any children (or vulnerable adults) other than their own. Further information can be found in the Data Protection/Privacy Notice at <https://saintanneline.com/parish-safeguarding-officer/policies/important-information-re-photography-and-filming-on-church-premises/> and a paper copy of this Notice will be displayed on the notice board in the church porch.

## **VOLUNTEERS FOR CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

We will need more volunteers to help at the 9.30am Mass !! If you can help every other week during term time please contact Lynn on 07903 852 375.

## **SUMMER BBQ 2026**

The date of this enjoyable event is on **SATURDAY 4 JULY 2026**. We need your help- donations of bottles, plants, raffle prizes needed. Please contact Tina on 07941 227 743 if you can donate any of the items. There **is one reflexology** appointment left on the 4th July at 3.15 pm. cost £10. **Face painter needed** for the Summer BBQ! Contact Tina Marrai if you are interested in the reflexology appointment or can help with face painting.

## **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.

## **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.

## **PARISH HALL**

The parish hall is available for hire for birthday parties and other events. Please contact the office for more information.

## **MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE**

Bishop Alan will be celebrating this Mass on Saturday 11 July, 3pm at Brentwood Cathedral, followed by a reception in the hall. We have 5 invitations for couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries, recently married, preparing for marriage. Please speak to Fr Celestine or contact the office if you would like to attend.

## **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. To find out more: [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://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](mailto:jacinta.balchin@tintabee.co.uk) to sign up for a place and further details.

## **DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE**

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a First Saturday Divine Mercy Recollection Day at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, on Saturday 6th June 2026 from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm. Call millie on 07957594646 for more information. Coaches from Slough, Ealing Broadway, North London, Barking and Victoria.

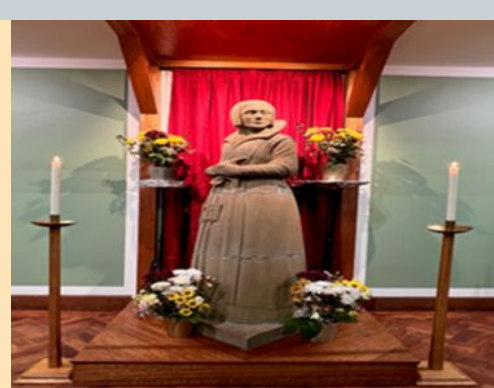
## **ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP, SUMMER 2026.**

Applications are now open for children currently in school year 5 - 7 (i.e. aged 9-12 in August 2026) to spend a week at camp. 25th July - 1st August or 1st - 8th August. Activities include archery, fishing, AquaPark visit, football, kayaking and much more. Suggested donation £200, but full bursaries are available. All application details are at <https://boscocamp.co.uk>. Places are likely to go quickly - early applications are encouraged.

## **DONATIONS FOR THE HOMELESS (COLLECTED FOR THE FRANCISCAN FRIARS)**

Please see list of items needed in the porch.

Last weekend Mass attendance was 303. Thank you very much for your collection offerings .



## **Pope Leo**

Dilexit Te - Apostolic Exhortation from Pope Leo - see Vatican website.

## **Pope Leo Encyclical**

Pope Leo's first encyclical, Magnifica humanitas, on preserving the human person in the age of artificial intelligence, will be released on May 25. More details will follow when available.

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

## **Anniversaries 25 May - 31 May**

Gertrude Garman, Dora Murphy, George Murray, Bridget King, Pat McHenry, Henry and Annie Curtin, Anne Doyle and Ann Horsfield

**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.**

## **Pope's Prayer Intention for May**

That everyone might have food. Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

## **Pope Leo: Special Request**

Let us pray together to the Holy Spirit, Lord and Giver of life. May He grant us the gift of Christian unity, bestow upon us enduring peace, and renew the face of the earth.

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.



## **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/>