

+ FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT +

Holydays of obligation – 29th / 30th November

Holy Family	6pm (sat) 8:30am 10am	Mass Holy Souls Mass People of the Parish Mass Bob McWilliam RIP
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Monday, 1st December – **Monday of the First Week of Advent**

Holy Family	9am	Mass Richard Hine RIP
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Tuesday, 2nd December – **Tuesday of the First Week of Advent**

Holy Family	9am	No Mass
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Wednesday, 3rd December – **Wednesday of the First Week of Advent**

Holy Family	9am	Mass Ints of Rod Pougnet
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Thursday, 4th December – **Thursday of the First Week of Advent**

Holy Family	9am	Mass Frances Roche RIP
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Friday, 5th December – **Friday of the First Week of Advent**

Holy Family	9am	Mass Ints of Mike Dean Followed by Adoration and Benediction Fr Eduard available for Confessions
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+ SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT +

Holydays of obligation – 6th / 7th November

Holy Family	6pm (sat) 8:30am 10am	Mass Miss LA Thompson Mass Mass People of the Parish
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Remember to have a Mass offered for your loved ones.

One day, we too will be a Holy Soul, depending on others to pray for us.

“Therefore he made atonement for the dead, that they might be delivered from their sin.” 2 Maccabees 12:45



Newsletter for Holy Family, Benfleet

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Priest in Charge: Rev. Dr. Eduard-William Fartan

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

29th / 30th November 2025

Advent Wreath

If you have any evergreen bushes or shrubs in your garden please consider pruning them to donate towards the Advent Wreath. Trailing Ivy and Ivy with berries, Rosemary, Eucalyptus, Hebe, Holly with or without berries, are also very welcome additions - the more variety the better! Please leave any donations outside the parish office from the 26th November. Thank you.



Christmas Flowers

As we did at Easter, this Christmas we will be organising the flowers a bit differently. We will still have dedicated arrangements for which we would appreciate a donation of £45.00 for each arrangement. This amount may be a single amount or made up of a combination of amounts. All arrangements will have a decorative label or multiple labels displayed. **The main change is that we request that donations be given in cash.** You may use the envelopes in the lobby for your cash donations, but these must be handed to one of the flower arranging team. If you have any queries you may contact one of us in person at Mass, or by calling or messaging Julie on 07971 212 068, or by emailing j.herridge@yahoo.co.uk

Closing date: 30th November 2025

The cost of Christmas flowers last year, exceeded the amount of donations received and the parish had to meet the excess.

The parish will be unable to do this any longer and we will, therefore, be looking at measures to reduce the cost.

Thank you. Julie, Maureen and Imelda.

Walsingham House Team 26/27

applications are now open for the Walsingham House Team 26/27. Being on the team is a wonderful opportunity to work with young people from across the diocese, live in community and to share and deepen our faith. Applications are open to those aged 18-23 (current Yr13 and above).

For more information including the application form please see the website <https://bcys.net/whabbotswick/be-on-team/> or email michaelkearns@brcdt.org.

Applications close on Friday 16th January 2026.

Offertory Collection Figures

The Brentwood Diocesan trust – Reg. Charity No. 234092

Gift aid it please!

	2025	2024	2023	Attendance
22 nd / 23 rd November	£417	£444.73	£400.47	122 + 21 children

These figures do not include standing orders, which will be included in the annual report

Vacancies

Headteacher vacancy at Holy Family Catholic Primary School, Benfleet, Essex, required for April 2026 – Due to the current headteacher taking the decision to retire from the post, an exciting opportunity has arisen for an inspirational, ambitious and innovative Headteacher to join the team at Holy Family Catholic Primary School. Further information and application documents can be found on the following websites – [HFCPS Website - Job Vacancies](#) and [Vacancies – Assisi Catholic Trust](#).

[Headteacher - St Peter's Primary School, Romford](#)

Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Tuesday 6th January 2026

“The Governing Body of St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School, Canvey Island, is looking for new Foundation Governors in this exciting time of improvement and change in the life of their school. If you are interested, please contact the Chair of Governors, JoAnna, on: jfleming@stjosephscanvey.net.”

Christmas Eve Choir – New Voices Welcome!

We’re preparing for the 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve and would love a few more people to join us. No experience needed—just a willingness to sing and share the Christmas spirit.

Rehearsals in the church, 7:30–9:00pm: **Wed 19 Nov, Wed 26 Nov, Wed 3 Dec, Wed 10 Dec.**

No rehearsal: Wed 17 Dec

Final run-through: Wed 24 Dec at 4:30pm, followed by carols at 5:30pm and Mass at 6pm. If you’ve been thinking about getting involved, this is a lovely moment to step in. You’ll be very welcome.

Gift Aid Reminder

Please remember to include your Gift Aid number with every donation you wish to Gift Aid—whether it’s a standing order, bank transfer, online donation, or envelope offering.

Many standing orders come through without a number, and it’s not always easy to match initials from the bank with our Gift Aid records. Adding your number each time helps us keep everything accurate and