

Parish of the Assumption of Our Lady Old Harlow, Essex CM17 0HA

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BULLETIN C 32 – 3RD JULY 2022 14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

My dear brothers and sisters,

How wonderful the church grounds are looking just now. The work of a few willing volunteers has really enhanced the whole area, thank you all very much and thank you to those who have donated gardening tools that has helped them achieve this spender.

This comes at exactly the right time for our next social event planned is our Strawberry Tea Garden Party on Sunday 14th August at 3.30pm, as we celebrate our Feast of Title, The Assumption of Our Lady, which is transferred this year from the following day. Tickets will be on sale soon. As with last year any bakers who are able to provide cakes would be greatly appreciated. We hope to have a raffle as well. This was a great occasion last year and became of good fund raising event as well as great fun being with each other.

God bless you all,
Fr. John

TIMES OF MASSES THIS WEEK

Sun	3	14 th of Ordinary Time	1000 Mass 1200 Mass 1800 Mass	People of the Parish Peace in Ukraine
Tue	5	feria	1900 Mass	
Wed	6	St. Maria Goretti	1000 Mass 1020 Adoration	
Thu	7	feria	0930 Mass	Fr. John Harvey (INT)
Fri	8	feria	1000 Mass	
Sun	10	15 th Ordinary Time	1000 Mass 1200 Mass 1800 Mass	People of the Parish Catenians Peace in Ukraine

TIMES OF RECONCILIATION THIS WEEK

Fr John will be available this week to hear confession on Tuesday at 6.30pm and Wednesday at 10.30am, or by appointment.

MASS INTENTIONS

We have many spaces for mass intentions, if you would like mass offered for someone, living or dead, or for a particular intention please use the envelopes provided.

Transylvania: Religion, History & Culture Fr Eduard Fartan from Holy Family in Benfleet is organising a Pilgrimage to Transylvania from 18th - 25th October 2022. The tour will include many beautiful churches and monasteries often set amongst the stunning Romanian countryside and focus on the melting pot of ancient cultures that have been present in the area. The approximate cost will start at £850 for one place in a double room. For more information or to register your interest please send an email to benfleet@dioceseofbrentwood.org

YEAR OF THE FAMILY: Our Diocese is marking the close of the Year of the Family at the annual Mass for Marriage and Family Life on 16th July, which Bishop Alan will offer for the intentions of all families in the Diocese. If you would like a particular intention to be placed before the altar at this Mass, please complete the prayer request form which can be found on the new Marriage and Family Life pages of the Diocesan website <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/marriage-family-life>. Fr. John has some invitations to this if anyone would like to attend.

DAY FOR LIFE – Thank you for all who contributed to last Sunday's second collection for "Day for Life" it raised £119-20 . This year's Day for Life. The collection is used to assist the work of promoting the Church's teaching on the dignity of human life through the support of national organisations and groups working in this field. The theme for this year's Day for Life is the Care of the Elderly. This theme was chosen because of the present catechesis of Pope Francis on the topic, the tragic impact which COVID had on elderly people, the fact that elderly people are those who are most threatened by the possible legislation of Assisted Suicide and that they are most affected by the current health and social care crisis. This theme also builds on the bishops' plenary resolution of 2018 to focus on ageing and the work which CARITAS is doing on the care of the elderly. We invite people to think again about the value and worth of older persons in families, in parishes, in society, and to make practical choices to build bridges between the generations. In this way we will learn from the wisdom of the elderly and the different rhythm of their lives, "The arrogance of the time on the clock must be converted into the beauty of the rhythms of life." (Pope Francis)

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The instructions to the seventy-two who are sent out are direct and simple. They are really sent out like lambs among wolves, without food, without distractions, without baggage, without spares. The version in the Gospel of Mark allows them sandals, presumably to enable them to make more speed on their journey, for the urgency of the task is paramount.

They are not to be distracted by picking and choosing their accommodation or their food. Direct, too, is their method: to impart the blessing of peace and to heal. No second chance: if the blessing is rejected, away they go, leaving the town to a fate worse than that of Sodom! Last Sunday's gospel demanded an uncompromisingly whole-hearted response to Jesus from the apostles.

This Sunday the apostles demand the same response to their own message. Again the absolute demands of Jesus! There is a wonderful simplicity about this message of the coming of the Kingdom: all that is involved is peace and healing. No squabbles, no fripperies, no complications of doctrine. If these Kingdom values can remain the focus of our Christian vision, we may make some progress towards bringing the Kingdom of God to reality in our own surroundings.

What would you say are the most important aspects of the Kingdom? What sort of healing can I bring in my own surroundings?

CATENIANS

Next Sunday at the 10am Mass and 12 noon we will welcome Tim Mills from Bishops' Stortford who will be coming to tell us about this wonderful organisation for Catholic Men.