

THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY

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THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD.

(Year C)

2nd February 2025

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CARITAS BRENTWOOD NETWORKING DAY

"You are warmly invited to the 2025 Caritas Brentwood Networking Day on Sunday, 9th February, from 2–6 pm at St. Edward the Confessor Church Hall, Romford RM1 4AT. This event is an opportunity to explore the Catholic response to pressing issues such as homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, supporting those affected by the Cost of Living Crisis, and addressing climate change. Join us to find inspiration during this Jubilee year, exchange ideas and best practices with parishioners across Essex and East London, and learn about the charities and resources available to support your efforts. Registration is free - find more details at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network."

Blessings, Siân Thomas-Cullinan

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OUR LADY OF FATIMA CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

The trustees of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Multi Academy Trust are seeking governors to support the leadership of the schools they serve.

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Multi Academy Trust consists of three Catholic schools

- St. Albans Catholic Academy in Harlow,
- St Luke's Catholic Academy in Harlow
- St John Fisher Catholic Academy in Loughton

Active governance supports the Catholic community and Catholic education in a variety of ways, most importantly it can have a significant impact by raising the quality of educational provision in our schools, which in turn ensures our children have a rich and full life, growing as ambassadors our Catholic faith.

We are particularly seeking governors who can support the schools using their professional qualities, such as leadership and management, finance and HR.

Being a foundation governor in a Catholic school is very rewarding, and a great way to live out your faith and serve your local community. It is also an opportunity to learn new skills which can have a positive impact on your own learning and professional development.

If you are interested please email Clerk@ourladyoffatimatrust.essex.sch.uk to arrange a meeting, or visit our website <https://www.ourladyoffatimatrust.essex.sch.uk/> for the governor application / nomination form.

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Sunday 2nd Feb **10:00 Solemn Mass** – The Presentation of the Lord.
(Ordinariate Use) – Janet Davis RIP.

18:00 Solemn Mass *People of the Parish*

Tuesday 4th Mass – Feria

Wednesday 5th Mass – St Agatha, V, M.

Sunday 2nd Feb **10:00 Solemn Mass** – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C.

18:00 Solemn Mass *People of the Parish*

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GOSPEL REFLECTION

« The Presentation of the Lord in the Temple »

Today, forty days after Christmas, Mary and Joseph take the Child Jesus to the Temple, to present him to the Lord.

Inspired by God, Simeon and Anna recognize in Jesus the Messiah awaited by Israel and prophesy about him. In this mystery —simple and solemn— the Church celebrates Christ, the Anointed by the Father, the firstborn of the new mankind.

The Holy Family accomplishes the prescriptions of the Law: the mother’s purification, the firstborn’s consecration to the Lord and his rescue through a sacrifice.

The “Messenger of the Covenant” enters into his own house and submits himself to the Law; He goes to Jerusalem to enter —in obedience— into the Lord’s house; He comes as the new High Priest — compassionate and faithful — to atone for the sins of mankind. Being still a child He starts to follow the obedience path, which He will go through to its ultimate consequences.

— Mary hears that a “sword” of pain will pierce her soul; her mission was not completed with the Incarnation, will rather be concluded with her loving participation in the death of the Son.