

CONFESSIONS Saturday after morning mass until 11:15am and
before the vigil mass from 5:30-6:15pm

MASS INTENTIONS 22nd–30th July 2023

Saturday 22nd July	6.30pm	(vigil) People of the Parish
Sunday 23rd July 2023 16th Sunday of the Year (A)	8.30am	Janet & Marie Francis RIP
	10.00am	Monica Chikezie/Nwosu & Family Intentions
	12 Noon	Marie Roderick RIP
	3.00pm	Spanish Mass
	4.30pm	Tamil Mass
	6.30pm 7.30pm	Solemn Holy Hour Mass
Monday 24th Feria	7.45am	Brian & Jean Briggs
	10.00am	Agatha Ng Thye RIP Juan De Martin Marfil RIP
Tuesday 25th St James	7.45am	Carmen Alexander & Family Thanksgiving
	10.00am	Janice Ross RIP Florence Iyawa & Family
	11.30pm	Requiem John Weller
	8.00pm	St Anthony's Novena
Wednesday 26th Ss Joachim & Anne	7.45am	Brothers of St John Intentions
	10.00am	Holy Souls Vincent McDonagh RIP
	11.30am	Requiem Yvonne Christian
Thursday 27th Feria	7.45am	Gaudoin Family & Friends Intentions
	10.00am	Sotero & Flor Atienza RIP
	11.30am	Requiem: Theophile Anson
Friday 28th Feria	7.45am	Dennis Castelas & Lily Macfarlaine
	10.00am	Vera Mackin RIP
Saturday 29th Ss Martha, Mary & Lazarus	10.00am	Dulcie Castellas
	6.30pm	(vigil) Antonio Mendis Intentions
Sunday 30th July 2023 17th Sunday of the Year (A)	8.30am	People of the Parish
	10.00am	Stanley & Janila Thanksgiving & Intentions
	12 Noon	Michael Harrick RIP
	3.00pm	Spanish Mass
	6.30pm	Solemn Holy Hour
	7.30pm	Mass

ST ANTONY'S CHURCH FOREST GATE
23rd July 2023—Sixteenth Sunday of the Year A

Overall Theme of Readings: The readings convey a theme of growth in virtue for eternal life. It also conveys the theme of agriculture and sowing the seed of God's Word in our lives.

First reading: - *Wisdom 12:13,16-19*: God has shown himself to be a God of justice and mercy. God's word is always effective in our hearts because it is always new. This same Word is not just on the Sacred page, but He became man so that He may become our hope and salvation that brings life to our souls.

The Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 86: A prayer to God for mercy. The psalm is a thanksgiving hymn, recognizing that God is generous in providing fruit for the labour of farmers.

Second reading - Romans 8:26-27: The Spirit intercedes for us with God. The first fruits were the first valuable of the harvest. Christians are those first fruits that are growing towards eternal life by the Spirit. Though we suffer we can offer our sufferings in union with Christ's salvific work of redemption. This act transforms our suffering to have purpose and meaning. This is a gift because we can endure any 'what' if we have a 'why'.

Gospel - Matthew 13:24-43: Jesus offers parables about the Kingdom of Heaven and explains them to his disciples. The seed that falls in the path are those who hear the Gospel but do not comprehend it. The seed on the rocky soil receives the Word but shrinks in persecution. The seed in the thorns are caught up in worldly anxieties. The seed in the rich soil are those who hear, receive, and bear fruit from the Word of God. To bear fruit is to have virtue and win souls for eternal life.

The Knights of Saint Columba National Relic Tour 2023

We are delighted to announce that the Diocese of Brentwood will be graced with the presence of esteemed relics during the Knights of Saint Columba National Relic Tour 2023. From July 30th to August 12th, we welcome you to witness and venerate the sacred relics of St. Columba of Iona, St. Andrew the Apostle, and St. Margaret of Scotland.

***The relics will be here at St Antony's Church from
Wednesday 2nd August—Friday 4th August 2023***

Wed 2nd Aug 12.30—6pm: Welcome service and Veneration

Thurs 3rd Aug 8am-12 Noon: Veneration before and after 10am Mass till 12 Noon

Fri 4th Aug 8am-12 Noon: Veneration before and after 10am Mass till 12 Noon

Friday 4th August relics depart at 12.15pm

For timetable of dates, time and places where relics can be viewed throughout the Diocese visit: <https://ibb.co/VWMPSVv>

These relics, rich in spiritual significance, offer a unique opportunity for personal reflection and communion with these revered saints. Join us in this profound spiritual journey as we celebrate their enduring legacies. Let us come together in faith and embrace the blessings of this extraordinary experience!

Fr John Jesus' Surgery—Fr John's next surgery, where he will be available to meet with people will be on **Tuesday 25th July, between 4pm-5pm.**

Newham Partnership Youth Co-Ordinator - The successful applicant will build and develop a Partnership Youth Leadership Team. Hours: 35 hours per week (to include evening and weekend work) Salary: £25,000 p/a Contract: A fixed 2 year contract, Start Date: Early October 2023. Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to frdanielkelly@brcdt.org Closing date for applications is 11th September 2023. Interviews – Week commencing 18th September 2023

**Pilgrimage of Reparation & Prayer for the Sanctity of Life, to
Walsingham Saturday 5th August, led by
Archbishop Kevin McDonald.**

For details see the poster on the noticeboard, or go to www.prolifepilgrimage.org
Please join in the 'great prayer for life' asked for by Pope Saint John Paul II.

London Marathon 2024 - Brentwood Catholic Children's Society has a number of Gold Bond Charity places for runners in the LONDON MARATHON taking place on SUNDAY 21st April 2024. If you are an experienced runner or someone who would value the opportunity to participate in this renowned event please contact Damian Dillon for further details ddillon@bccs.org.uk. The closing date for completed applications is Friday 28th July and please note that there is a minimum sponsorship requirement of £1800 (excluding Gift Aid). If you have been lucky enough to secure your own running place through the ballot, we would invite you to join us and run for Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. The London Marathon is a unique opportunity to raise much needed funds for the Diocesan Children's Society and perhaps achieve a lifetime ambition at the same time.

The next Baptismal Preparation Course—Will be on Saturday 14th August 2023 and begins at 12.00 Noon promptly in St Francis Hall. Parents who wish to have their children Baptised must attend the Baptismal Preparation course. You will be asked to provide a copy of your Baptismal certificate and also your Godparents Baptismal Certificate which must include details of Confirmation.

We pray for the SICK of our Parish, Families & Friends— and all at home or in hospital, and all who care for our sick.

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Parish Administrator: Marie Browne Tel: 020 8472 0433 :
Parish Youth Co-ordinator: Catherine Wallis-Hughes Tele: 07807348223.
St Antony's School: -T.020 8552 3670

CHANGE OF MASS TIMES DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS
From Monday 31st July to Friday 1st September there will only be one
Mass at 10.00am
There will be NOT be a 7.45am Mass during this period. Thank you

Farewell to Father Philip Okoli

Dear friends, we have been blessed for this last year to have had Father Philip Okoli with us here in the parish. Sadly for us, Bishop Alan has now asked him to move to help out at St James and St Helen Parish in Colchester. Father Okoli, while doing his studies in Colchester this last year, has helped out here at the parish. His wisdom, kindness, generosity and love of God has shone through in everything he has done. Even though his stay with us will have been short, we will miss him and pray his ministry will continue to flourish in Colchester. **On Sunday July 30th after the 12-noon mass** we will have a gathering to wish him farewell. Please bring some food and drinks to share as we say a big thank you to Father Okoli for his service in our midst.

Helena (Mary) Hambly RIP—please pray for the repose of the soul of Helena Hambly who died recently, Helen was a long standing dedicated member of the parish community, she was great supporter of the parish SVP. Helen's funeral service will be at **City of London on 7th August at 1pm**. Please remember her family and friends in your prayers. Eternal rest grant unto Her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her may she rest in peace. Amen

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

John Weller RIP—funeral service on 25th July 11.30am St Antony's Church.

Yvonne Christian RIP-funeral service on 26th July 11.30am St Antony's Church

Theophile Anson RIP—funeral service on 27th July 11.30am St Antony's Church
Please remember their family and friends in your prayers. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them may they rest in peace. Amen.

Holy Shop/Repository
will not be opening after the 12 Noon mass during the month of August.

Thank you for your continued support

- **online donations link:** <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/donations/saop>
- **Donations can be made parish web-site** www.stantonysforestgate.com
- Payment direct into the parish bank account using online banking
- **Catholic Church Forest Gate St Antonys: Acc No: 11390953 /Sort Code: 40-13-22**
- **QR Codes available around the church**