

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

MASS INTENTIONS 27th April–5th May 2024

Saturday 27th April 2024	6.30pm	(vigil) Martin Hehir RIP
Fifth Sunday of Easter B 28th April 2024	8.30am	Leslie & Vera Henderson RIP
	10.00am	People of the Parish
	12 Noon	Densil Joseph RIP
	3.00pm	Spanish Mass
	6.30pm	Solemn Holy Hour
Monday 29th St Catherine of Siena	7.45am	Dulcie Castellias
	10.00am	Isidora John RIP Seamus & Mary Maughan & Family Intentions
Tuesday after the Fifth Sunday of Easter 30th	7.45am	Dennis Castellias & Lily MacFarlaine
	10.00am	Leslie Smith RIP John Gallagher RIP
	8.00pm	St Anthony's Novena
Wednesday after the Fifth Sunday of Easter 1st May	7.45am	Amador & Aida Capuno Thanksgiving
	10.00am	Kamala Das RIP Olusla Adebisi
Thursday 2nd St Athanasius	7.45am	Angela Geraghty
	10.00am	Carmen Gauci RIP
First Friday 3rd SS Philip and James	7.45am	Prudence Roderick RIP
	10.00am	Minguel Rosario & Maria Noronha Thanksgiving
All Night Adoration after 9.30pm Mass	9.30pm	Sacred Heart Confraternity
Saturday 4th The English Martyrs	10.00am	Christina Farrell RIP Marilyn Etienne RIP
	6.30pm	(Vigil) People of the Parish
Sixth Sunday of Easter B 5th May 2024	8.30am	Ivy Jordan RIP
	10.00am	Edith Obi & Family Thanksgiving
	12 Noon	Chizaram Akotibe Thanksgiving
	3.00pm	Spanish Mass
	6.30pm	Solemn Holy Hour
	7.30pm	Mass

ST ANTONY'S CHURCH FOREST GATE

Fifth Sunday of Easter B—28th April 2024

Reading I: Acts 9:26-31, Psalm: Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32,

Reading II: 1 John 3:18-24 Gospel: John 15:1-8

Overall Theme: We are not called to question whether we will be saved, but to make every effort to have confidence in our relationship with the Lord as we become true disciples.

Summary of the Readings:

First reading: The disciples are skeptical about allowing Paul to join them, but Barnabas in humble boldness befriends and advocates for him. When they see that Paul is a true disciple and is willing to die for his faith, they welcome him. This becomes an integral step for the proclamation of the gospel and the growth of the early Church. **Psalm:** The Father allowed the Son to endure forsakenness to yield the fruit of our salvation. Although it seems like a psalm of defeat, it concludes with themes of joy and the triumph of the Lord. It prophesies about the Church, the Eucharist, global conversion, and the resurrection of the body.

Second reading: When we love in deed and truth we put the faith into practice and remain in communion with God. The theme of remaining or abiding signifies the importance of sharing a common life. Observing conformity to the commandments reflects the presence of the Spirit within us, serving as a tangible sign of our salvation.

Gospel: The vine and branches discourse parallels the bread of life discourse intentionally, as they are both symbols of the Eucharist. The true believer remains in Christ and recognizes that He can do nothing apart from Him. We abide in Christ most closely in Holy Communion. In the Gospels, bearing fruit is either growth in virtue or leading souls to conversion. The Lord allows suffering in order for us to resist our desires, enabling us to bear more fruit. We must be willing to submit to the Father's pruning in trust. Unlike the teachings of the prosperity gospel, communion with Christ is not always pleasant because the closer we are to Him, the more we share in the Cross. Yet, this intimate union gives us rich love and hope in resurrecting with Him.

Practical Application: These readings urge us to reevaluate our priorities to be ordered to eternal life. Much of what we stress about is minuscule in the divine perspective.

First Holy Communion

Our First Holy Communion children will be receiving communion for the first time during the month of May, Saturday: 4th, 11th, 18th May at the 10am Mass.

Please keep them in your prayers.

First Friday—First Friday 9.30pm Mass followed by All Night Adoration will be on **Friday 3rd May 2024**

St Antony's Saturday Club—the Saturday Club will be on **Saturday 4th May 2024, from 2pm-4pm**. The Saturday Club runs on a monthly basis and it is designed to offer the senior citizens of our parish a place to gather, have a cuppa and a sandwich, catch up and enjoy themselves for a few hours on a Saturday afternoon.

The next Baptismal Preparation Course—Will be on **Saturday 18th May 2024** and begins at **12.00 Noon promptly**. 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.

Thy Kingdom Come - Pentecost Prayer Novena 2024 - There will be 24/7 prayer running from 2pm on Sunday 12th May to 10pm on Saturday 18th May at the Sion Community Chapel. You are welcome to join us any time from 6am to 12 midnight. It would be very helpful if you could book an hour slot in the prayer room by visiting this link: <https://signup.24-7prayer.com/signup/75e411> or you can join us for Praise & Worship at 8pm which is taking place each evening. We look forward to welcoming you for this special prayer time.

Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre – St Patrick's Way Pilgrimage 2025
The Community is organising a pilgrimage on 22-27 April 2025. We will be journeying along the newly-established St Patrick's Way in the North of Ireland. The pilgrimage is open to all faiths and none and is aimed at being accessible to everyone - walkers and non-walkers.
If you are interested in joining us, please find further details and booking form on our website <https://canonesses.co.uk/pilgrimage-st-patricks-way-april-2025/> or email projects@canonesses.co.uk. Closing date: 10 May 2024.

Brentwood Diocesan Trust Registered Charity Number 234092
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Parish Youth Co-ordinator: Catherine Wallis-Hughes **Tele:** 07807348223.
St Antony's School: -T.020 8552 3670

SAFEGUARDING

There is a legal requirement for all parish volunteers who work with children (eg, catechists, altar servers aged under 18) or vulnerable adults (eg parishioners visited in their homes) to have a DBS certificate no more than 3 years old. This must be obtained through the parish for parish work. If you do not have a certificate, or it was gained more than 3 years ago, or you are unsure about this, please contact the Parish Safeguarding rep: Anne Kenward 07703336287 or aandrkenward@talktalk.net.

Thank you

Fr John Jesus Surgery - If you would like to meet with Fr John Jesus his Next surgery will be on Tuesday 7th May 2024 - 4pm-5pm.

PARISH GIFT AID SCHEME

If you are a member of the Parish Gift Aid Scheme and

- AND YOU NO LONGER PAY TAX please contact the parish office, so we can amend our records.
- You must be a UK tax payer to be a member of the Parish Gift Aid Scheme.
- If any of your contact details have changed, ie name, address, telephone number, please contact the parish office

PLEASE let the parish office know immediately if anything changes it is very important that the information we hold on our records are correct and up to date.

Email: forestgate@brcdt.org **Thank you**

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- 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
- *QR Codes available around the church*
- *Contactless using QR Codes located around the Church*

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