# The Parish of St Teresa of the Child Jesus, Rochford & St Pius X Hockley

Parish priest: Fr Gerry Drummond MA 109 Ashingdon Road Rochford
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## Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A

In the Middle Ages, Catholics had a deep admiration for Joseph, who acted with great honour when he discovered that the young woman to whom he was betrothed was pregnant. Despite knowing that the child was not his, Joseph still took Mary for his wife, believing that the child she was carrying was from the Holy Spirit.

We can be sure that Joseph's mates would have given him a lot of stick when he told them that he was accepting the assurance of the angel that Mary had not been unfaithful to him!

Joseph showed great faith in God's word to him and he also displayed great trust of his young wife. And that is why it is quite understandable that mediaeval Catholics had such a devotion to Joseph, a devotion which perhaps we have lost today. He became a worthy foster father of Jesus, even though, of course, no one strictly speaking could be worthy of such an awesome privilege!

We may also see Joseph as a saint for today, with much to teach us through the great trust and fidelity he showed to God, his wife and, above all, his foster child Jesus. While we know that God the Holy Spirit was the true Father of Jesus, yet in human terms, on this earth, Joseph was the father of Jesus: he was his adopted father. Today, many children do not have as their father their 'biological father'. We can see Joseph as an inspiration and example of fatherly love and fidelity. He is a saint for all who adopt the role of father whether or not they are fathers by blood of those precious sons and daughters for whom they are now responsible.

With every blessing

Fr Gerry

**We welcome Chloe Haslam, Molly Potter, Joseph Potter, and Noah Dawson into the family of God as they receive the sacrament of Baptism at the 10.30 Mass this weekend.**

**The Legion of Mary:** working and praying for the Kingdom of God in our Parish. Everyone is most welcome to the 5.30pm meeting on Mondays in the Parish Centre. new members are always welcome.

As we gather to celebrate the Birth of our Saviour on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, may we give a gentle reminder that the collections at the Christmas Masses form a large part of the Parish Priest's income. Please come prepared.

**Mass for Vocations**. A Mass to pray with and for those training for Priesthood, and those considering Priestly vocation. All are very welcome to Holy Trinity Church, Wickhay, Basildon SS15 5AD, at 11.30am on Wednesday 29th December. For more details, or to enquire about vocation, please contact Fr Dominic Howarth - frdominic@brentwoodvocations.org. Holy Trinity Church is close to Basildon station, on the c2c line, and also easily reached from the A13 or A127.

Treasure Tots

**Montessori Baby and Toddler Class** in St Pius X **Tuesday 11th January1.30 - 3 pm and every Tuesday**. We look forward to meeting you all soon. Further details from Sarah Drummond on 077 6583 6593.

**RCIA** continues on **Tuesday 11th January 7.30pm at Kilnfield House** Foundry Business Park, Station Approach, Hockley, SS5 4TW (Just by Hockley Station).

Baby & Toddler Group Wednesdays 9.40- noon Meeting every week during term time in the Parish Centre. With toys for babies and toddlers, and refreshment for the grown-ups. This follows a short (15 Minutes)Mass in church at 9.20 which is very child - friendly! All parents and carers are welcome. Contact: Angie Pittaway 07801 260873, or Sarah Gilbert 530254 for further information.

# Well Done, Gabriella!

Castlepoint Yellow Advertiser, Thursday, December

## Student awards

MORE than 60 students from across Castle Point and Rochford have been handed awards for their work.

Pupils from across both boroughs received Jack Petchey Achievement Awards at the Mill Arts Centre, in Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh.

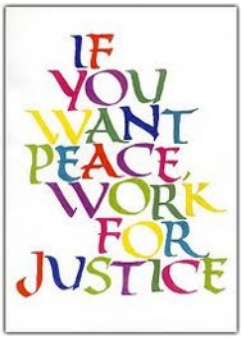
The 66 youngsters had been nominated by their peers and their teachers before being handed a framed certificate and a cheque for £200.

Councillor Jackie Govier, deputy mayor of Castle Point, said: "It is terrific to celebrate young people in this way.

"So often we hear the bad, but tonight it was nothing by good"

Established in 1999 by Jack Petchey, now aged 85, the Foundation aims to help develop the potential in young people aged from 11 to 25 in London and Essex.

**TALENTED (clockwise from top left): Gabrielle Prideaux, Jack Best, Nico Hughes and Michael Sadler with their awards.**




**"Starting Justice & Peace from the Grassroots"** - a one day seminar for Brentwood, Southwark and Westminster parishes, Wednesday, 26th January, 11am - 4pm at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, LONDON SE1 Stephen Kearney and Julia Olsen from RE:generate explain a tried and tested approach renewing our parish witness to Social Justice. Tea, Coffee and lunch provided - suggested donation towards costs £10. To book a place contact CJSR 01277 265290 email: cjsr@dioceseofbrentwood.org

## Notices

*Fr Gerry's day off is Friday, please remember that he only has one day off each week and only contact him on a Friday if it cannot wait until Saturday.*

**World Youth Day.** Two weeks in Spain; a stay with a Spanish host family; world class hostel accommodation in central Madrid; 1.5 million young people - and Pope Benedict XVI. The cost is £895 but there will be fundraising support towards this cost. Just nine places remain on the BCYS trip to be part of this amazing experience. August 10th - 23rd 2011. Initial meeting for the group is 3rd January, so please register interest now - form can be printed from www.bcys.net. Open to all in school year 12 up to young adult.

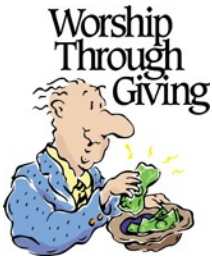
You may have heard that on 2nd December 2010, three Anglican nuns, Sr. Wendy Renate, Sr. Jane Louise and Sr. Carolyne Joseph left the Priory of Our Lady in Walsingham for a period of discernment with the intention of joining the Ordinariate when established. They ask prayers for themselves and for the Sisters remaining at the Priory of Our Lady.

According to Church of England sources, the nuns were told to leave the convent "at great speed with next to nothing". They are currently discerning their future at Abbottswick, but have only the clothes they stand up in. There will be a second collection for them after the Masses this weekend. Please be as generous as you can.

A reminder that the collections at the

## PARISH PRAYER

*Heavenly Father, send out your light and your truth.*
*Open our eyes to the opportunities you give us;*
*Open our ears to hear your call;*
*Open our hearts to your love,*
*That we may serve you And bring others to your light,*
*Through Jesus Christ Our Lord.*




*1st Collection for 5th December was £1176.57*

*2nd Collection for the Brentwood Ecclesiastical Education Fund was £75*

*The Christmas Prize Draw raised £533.50 before prize money is deducted.*

*Our parish costs on average £1620 per week to run.*

*Thank you for your generosity.*

## The Faith Store

3, Roche Close, Rochford
(opposite the Co op)
OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY
10 til 4

Our parish shop is run entirely by volunteers and 100% profit made goes straight to the church for much needed funding.
We always welcome your donations of clothes, toys, books, CDs, DVDs, bric-a-brac etc.

Donation pick up is available ~ call Tracey on 202267

Many thanks for your continued support

Christmas Masses form a large part of the Parish Priest's income. Please come prepared.

# Mass Times and Intentions

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| | | 5.30pm | Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A | Matty Cahill RIP | RC |
| Sun | 19 | 9.00am at St Pius X | | The People of the Parish | |
| | | 10.30pm | | Billy Fenlon RIP | BF |
| Mon | 20 | 10.45am | The Funeral Mass of Marie Barrett | | JH |
| Tues | 21 | 9.20am | | Douglas Gullick RIP | MG |
| Weds | 22 | 9.20am | | Ints Sr Anna Tracey | |
| Thurs | 23 | 10.00am at St Pius X | | Ints Nellie & Jim Buggy | |
| Fri | 24 | 5.30pm | | Keith and Denis Henaghan RIP | JH |
| | | 11.30pm | Midnight Mass | The People of the Parish | |
| Sat | 25 | 9.00am at St Pius X | Christmas Day | Ints Sr Breda Tracey | |
| | | 10.30am | | Kathleen Connoly RIP | OR |
| Sun | 26 | 9.00am at St Pius X | The Holy Family | The People of the Parish | |
| | | 10.30am | | Elsie Smithson RIP | OR |

## For Your Prayers

Sr. Wendy Renate, Sr. Jane Louise and Sr. Carolyne Joseph

Those who live in Southview Road, Ulverston Road, The Avenue, and Westbourne Close, .

The people of Hockley Methidist Church, and their Minister, Rev'd Brenda Gutberlet.

The Sick: David Squires, Ellie-Mae Robinson, Aaron Hobbs (wounded in combat), Edward Cunado, Bridie Mullany, Betty Allen, Dee Fage, Vicky Fage, Joseph Merceica, Lisa Hughes, Constance Longman, John Quinn, Joyce Hall, Len Smith, Mary Plews, Dexter Jackson, Yvette Grimes, James Robinson, Sianne Robinson, Claire Dean, Samantha Robinson, Collette Hague, Margaret Hennessy, Sarah Fisher, Delia Cheek, William McArthur, Gail Airey, Joan Hauser, Antoinette Cane, Christopher Carr, Sarah Knight, Ross Giza, Oliver Kelly, Lucy Fuller, Drummond & Helen Clapp, Chris Sheehan, Jim Bourne, Shirley Kennenson, Gareth Lewis, Mark Reilly, Bartly Igoe, Dexter Govia, Michael King, Elizabeth Reilly, Marjorie Jay, Cassie & Christine Thompson, Ciaran Freel, Angele Du Cann, Paul Clarke, Ken Cropley, Louise Knight, Ann Moore, Tony Micallef, Maud Livett, and all who are sick.

All the Departed, and in particular: Marie Barrett, Audrey Dawes, Harry Clark, recently departed; Mattie Cahill, Florence Collins, Keith Henaghan, Paul Masterson, Frank Fenn, William King, Jack Wilson, Ben Casey, Wiebe Loopstra, Jerzy & Halina, Zylka Krzysiu, and all whose anniversaries fall at this time.