

A warm welcome to
THE PARISH OF ST TERESA OF THE CHILD JESUS
ROCHFORD & ST PIUS X HOCKLEY

Parish Priest: Fr Gerry Drummond MA
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A very warm welcome to you all. This weekend is the first of Lent, and the readings point us in two directions: firstly, the Old Testament and New Testament readings foreshadow the gift of Baptism in which sin is washed away; secondly the Gospel gives us Jesus' clarion call to repentance. Today's liturgy invites us to present ourselves to God to be cleansed of our sins.

PARISH DIARY

First Holy Communion Children meet this Sunday in the Parish Centre after the 10.30 Mass. This week they are thinking about the Gift of Joy.

Confirmation meeting is this Sunday 1st March after 10.30 Mass. Please also add to your date list for events Sunday 15th March. This is an event at Brentwood Cathedral and is an important part of the programme. There will be Mass but we are not sure about the timings yet, so please keep from 2 O'Clock in the afternoon free. Any questions please contact Una on 07950-823058.

Strands, Youth Group, is open Sunday March 1st from 7pm-9pm for everyone Year

7 and above. The club now has a Nintendo Wii as well as table tennis, billiards and snooker. £2 entry includes drinks and snacks.

The Legion of Mary meets each Monday at 5.30 pm in the Parish Centre - new members always welcome.

G.A.L.S. (Girls & Ladies) There is a slight change to this Monday's programme. Shirley Perkins, a very talented lady, will be demonstrating crafts instead of flower arranging, and there is an opportunity for everyone to take part. She assures me it is very easy, please bring a small pair of cutting scissors if possible. St. Tereas's Parish Centre, at 7.30 p.m. Maureen 01702 201688.

Tuesdays 10.00am during Lent: **Benediction** at St Pius X. Come and pray with Jesus.

Mens Group There will be an opening meeting at The White Hart Public House, White Hart Road, Hockley, at 8.30pm on Tuesday 3 March.

Baby & Toddler Group meets on Wednesday 4th 10am to 12pm: in the Parish Centre; everyone very welcome.

Wednesday 4th March 8.00pm: **EVENINGS OF RECOLLECTION FOR LENT** at Nazareth House. See advertisement for further details.

RCIA meets next on Wednesday 4th at 8.00pm Come and share your faith and learn more about it yourself!

Father Gerry is on a day of Recollection this Thursday, so there will be a Eucharistic Service at St Pius X.

The **Finance Committee** meets on Thursday Evening at 8pm in the Presbytery.

Friday 6 March 2009 at 10.30am **Women's World Day of Prayer**; theme: In Christ There Are Many Members Yet One Body. A Service prepared by Christian Women of Papua New Guinea, Speaker: our very own Christine Thompson! at St Pius X Catholic Church. Friday followed by refreshments. All Welcome, Men Women and Young People

Saturday 7th 10.30am **Confessions** at St Pius X Hockley. Why not come along and celebrate God's Loving forgiveness?

Sunday 8th after 10.30 Mass: **Coffee morning** in the Parish Centre to raise money for new Altar Linen and Kneeler repairs.

PARISH NEWS

There will be a special Easter edition of **News from the Pews** available in April. If you have any contributions could you let Tracey have them by Sunday 29th March please. Email: tracey@greengages.com, post: Greengages, Mount Bovers Lane, Hawkwell SS5 4JE or pop them in the box in the church porch. Many thanks!

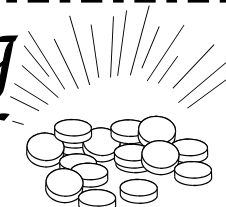
LET THE CHILDREN LIVE! The Pancake Race, raffle and coffee morning raised £167.50. The raffle alone raised over £70 of that figure and it was won by Strip No. 31 - 35. Would the winner please phone Ann on 07884123649. The next event is a Quiz Night with hot food in the Parish Centre at 7 p.m. on Saturday, 21 March. Tickets £5 each. Please see posters in the church

porches for further details. A chance to enjoy some home cooking and put your thinking caps on!! Please bring your own drinks. Thank you all for your continuing support for the work of "Let the Children Live!".

We are now collecting ink and toner cartridges for recycling. There will be bins at the back of church for your empties, so don't forget to bring them along and help us raise a few pounds in the process!

Altar Linen Raffle The altar linen at St Teresa's is now very old and therefore there will be a raffle held for the cloth. Tickets and a display of the many exciting prizes are at the back of the church. Please be generous.

SURREXIT! The sound system at St Pius X has once again been repaired, but will need replacing soon as it is now very poor quality. I know some people are finding it difficult to hear properly and it is very important that everyone can hear services clearly. It will cost around £500 to replace with a modern and more appropriate system. Donations or fund raising events for this project would be very much appreciated. Please speak to Fr Gerry for further details.

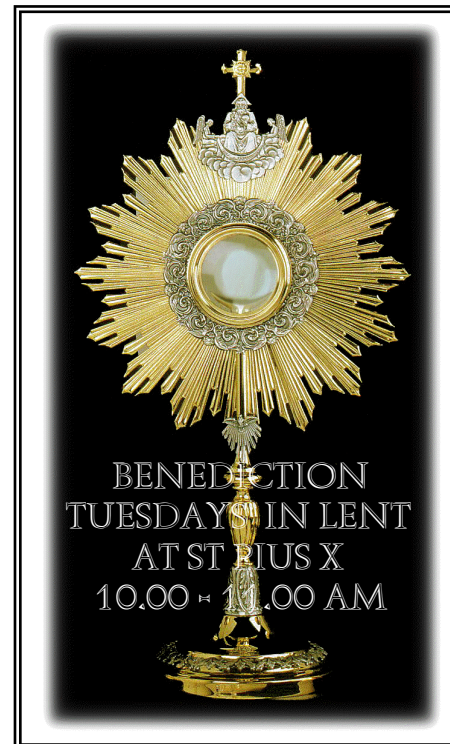
Offering Total 

1st Collection for 15th Feb was £942.81,
1st Collection for 22nd Feb was £901.53.

Our parish costs approximately £1800 each week to run. Thank you all for your continued generosity.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sat	28	5.30pm		First	Our Candidates for the Easter Sacraments
Sun	1	9.00am	At S Pius X	Sunday of	Nora Danizen RIP
	Mar	10.30am		Lent	The People of the Parish
Mon	2	No Mass Today			
Tues	3	10.00am	At S Pius X		Benediction
		7.30pm			Fr John Gordon RIP FM
Weds	4	9.20am			
Thurs	5	10.00am	At S Pius X	Eucharistic Service	
Fri	6	9.20am			
		CAFOD			
Sat	7	9.30am			
		5.30pm		Second	The People of the Parish
Sun	8	9.00am	At S Pius X	Sunday of	
		10.30am		Lent	



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. Amen.

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 /Painter /Decorator**
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Catholic Deanery of Southend-on-Sea EVENINGS OF RECOLLECTION FOR LENT

at Nazareth House, London Road, Southend SS1 1PP
 based on the Seven Last Words of Our Lord on the Cross

Each evening begins at 8.00pm and includes a talk/meditation followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Compline Night Prayer and Benediction.
 Priests will be available for Confession, bookstall and refreshments afterwards in the hall.

- Wednesday 4th March: It is accomplished; Father into your hands I commend my spirit
Mr Mark Lambert (Parish Catechist, theology student at Maryvale Institute, Husband & Father of four)
- Wednesday 11th March: Father, forgive them; today you will be with me in Paradise
Fr Paul Keane (Assistant, Brentwood Cathedral)
- Wednesday 18th March: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me; I thirst
Fr Graham Smith (Parish Priest of Shoeburyness)
- Wednesday 25th March: Behold your Mother; Mother, behold your son
Fr Hugh Allan OPraem (Prior & Parish Priest of Our Lady Immaculate, Chelmsford)

Coffee Morning Sunday 8th March
 11.30am in the Parish Centre for
 Altar Linen & Kneeler Repairs.



FOR YOUR PRAYERS

The Sick: Nellie Reilly, Donna Richardson, Zita Sarah Flint, Marylin Friend, Cyril Hall, Marjorie Jay, Cassie Thompson, Ciaran Freil, Liam Killick, Ross Giza, David Ward, Madeleine Edery, Oliver Kelly, Lucy Fuller, Laura Munden, O'Conner, Angele DeCan, Ann Francis, Paul Harry Clark, Terry & Marie Barrett, Vicki Fage, Daphne Lamb, Jackie Gravestock, Fr William Fage, Louise Knight, Ann Moore, Tony Micallef, Maud Livett, and all who are sick.

The Departed: Mary Purcell, recently departed, Linda Jordan, Paul Widera, John Glennie, Amanda Walsh, Michael King, Elizabeth Reilly, Rita Gooding, Harry Paris, and all whose years' mind fall this week.