

Mass Times and Intentions at St. Stephen's Church, Manor Park	
Sat 17th Feb	Saturday after Ash Wednesday
6.00 p.m.	Francis Gracias (Rest in Peace)
Sun 18th Feb	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (B)
9.00 a.m.	Holy Souls
11.00 a.m.	Luka, Liam & Gilbert Pious – Birthday blessing
Mon 19th Feb	Monday of the First Week of Lent
9.15 a.m.	Sesamma Fernando (Rest in Peace)
Tue 20th Feb	Tuesday of the First Week of Lent
9.15 a.m.	Thanksgiving for 60 th birthday blessings
Wed 21st Feb	Wednesday of the First Week of Lent
9.15 a.m.	Caroline Parmenter (Rest in Peace)
Thu 22nd Feb	THE CHAIR OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE Feast
9.15 a.m.	Karen Kersey (Rest in Peace)
Fri 23rd Feb	Friday of the First Week of Lent (Lent Fast Day)
6.30 p.m.	Damian Luis (Rest in Peace)
Sat 24th Feb	Saturday of the First Week of Lent
9.15 a.m.	
6.00 p.m.	People of the parish
Sun 25th Feb	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (B)
9.00 a.m.	
11.00 a.m.	Alfred Ojuri (Rest in Peace)

Prayer List

John Oruche, Veronica Ojuri, Margaret, Chris, Loreen Phillips, Nicholas Graves, Kathleen Phillips, Benedicta Addo, Baby Simon Elliott, Clemence Sanderson, and Kathleen Kavanagh, Mary Jane Ememe, Jay Agnes.

Offertory 11th February 2024

Envelopes	£264.50
Loose plate	£348.69
Standing order	£357.12
Total	£970.31

Pews & Kneelers	
June-December 2023	£3,772.72
January 2024	£250.00
February 2024	£100.00
Total	£4,122.72

Mission Appeal: £208.36; Candles: £145.50; Second collections: £36.50.

January online donations: £60.00



St. Stephen's Catholic Church
 146 Little Ilford Lane, Manor Park, London E12 5PJ.
 Telephone: 020 8478 1895
 Email: manorpark@brcdt.org
 Website: www.ss-stephenandnicholas.org.uk
 Rev. John Victor Drabeesan
 St. Winefride's Primary School – 020 8478 0510
 Charity Number: 234092
 Facebook page: [@manorparkRC](https://www.facebook.com/manorparkRC)
 Twitter page: [@manorparkRC](https://twitter.com/manorparkRC)

First Sunday of Lent – B (18.02.2024)

Dear Parishioners,

The first reading tells us that, although man irrevocably broke the *original covenant* God had made with Adam and Eve, the merciful God selected Noah and his family to renew that covenant. Noah's rescue from the flood waters symbolizes our being saved through the water of Baptism which cleanses us of sin and makes us one with Christ. In the second reading, St. Peter shows us how Noah's episode prefigured Baptism. He reminds us that, as Noah and his family were saved from the waters of the deluge, so we are saved through the waters of Baptism. Baptism is an outward sign of the New Covenant that God has made with His people. It makes us adopted children of God, heirs of Heaven, and temples of the Holy Spirit. In the Gospel, we are told that Jesus faced and defeated the tempter at the end of his forty days of prayer, penance, and communion with the Father in the desert immediately following his baptism. It also tells us how Jesus started preaching his Messianic mission: "*The time is fulfilled. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent. Believe in the Gospel.*"

Have a Blessed Week
Fr. John Victor.

MARRIAGES: By appointment. At least six months' notice is required. Please speak to the parish priest for more information.

Baptisms: By appointment. At least two months' notice is required. If you have a child to baptise kindly speak to the parish priest after Mass.

Family Mass Intentions: Those who need special prayers for your family, kindly write the details for family Mass intentions. (Find the papers at the rear of the Church). Kindly do not include RIP intentions.

Stations of the Cross: If anyone likes to read the stations of the cross, kindly write your details in the paper provided at the rear of the Church.

Season of Lent: Let us be more prayerful and peace loving.

Lent	Day	Time
Adoration	Sunday to Thursday	8.30 to 9.10 a.m.
	Saturday	9.45 to 10.30 a.m.
Adoration, Mass & Stations of the Cross	Every Friday	6.30 p.m.
Vigil Mass	Every Saturday	6.00 p.m.
Adoration & Confession	Every Saturday	9.45 a.m.
Lenten Reconciliation	Monday	18/3/2024 at 6.30 pm

World Day of Prayer: Ecumenical World Day of prayer takes place on Friday 1st March at Methodist Church, High Street South, East Ham E6 3PA. Those who would like to participate are welcomed.

Caritas Diocese of Brentwood is inviting you to take part in several activities during Lent: We have a photo challenge for all ages. Stations of the Cross for teenagers, a Giving Calendar to help collections for local foodbanks, suggestions on how to raise awareness for the homeless within Essex and East London and some great resources from charities such as SVP and CAFOD. All information and resources can be found at www.caritasbrentwood.org/lent or by emailing sianthomas@brcdt.org.

Brentwood Cathedral Lent Lectures 2024: Talk One: Fr Timothy Radcliffe, OP, Wednesday 21st February, 7.30 pm. Talk Two: Fr Jan Nowotnik, Wednesday 28th February, 7.30 pm. Talk Three: Mr Austen Ivereigh, Wednesday 6th March, 7.30 pm. Talk Four: Bishop Nicholas Hudson, Wednesday 13th March, 7.30 pm. Free entry, all welcome. Further details on Brentwood Cathedral website: www.cathedral-brentwood.org.

Apprenticeships at Walsingham House: Walsingham House are offering a two year apprenticeship course in Youth Ministry and Chaplaincy (Yr 13 school leavers). Participants will live and work at Walsingham House, running retreats for young people across the diocese whilst studying with St Mary's University, Twickenham. For more information please email clairebailey@brcdt.org or visit the website www.bcys.net/apprenticeship-opportunity-at-walsingham-house/

Lectionary Readings for Lent: Commentary on every Scripture reading from Ash Wednesday to Good Friday by Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, is available free of charge on www.whatgoodnews.org. Click on 'Scripture Readings' and 'Lent Readings'. The commentaries are also available in book form from Darton, Longman and Todd www.dartonlongmantodd.co.uk.

Lunchtime Organ Recital at Brentwood Cathedral on Wednesday 21st February 1.00 pm - 1.45 pm by Matthew West from the Royal College of Music, including pieces by Olivier Messiaen, JS Bach and Charles-Marie Widor.

School Vacancies (for further details please see www.dioceseofbrentwood.net): School Chaplain – Ursuline Academy, Ilford: Deadline for applications: Friday 23rd February 2024.

St John's RC Special School, Woodford Bridge is recruiting for an SEN Class Teacher (MPS) and Classroom Support Assistants. These are full-time, term time only roles in a school with students aged 5-25 with a wide range of special needs. Previous experience essential. For application packs please contact the school office on 020 8504 1818 or email office@stjohnsrgschool.co.uk stating the role you are interested in. Successful applicants will be subject to an enhanced DBS check, www.stjohnsrgschool.co.uk.

Housekeeper – Wickford: 6hours per week, £12.00/hour salary. Apply hr@brcdt.org

Drawing a cheque: When you draw a cheque for the Parish, kindly write the following name: *Catholic Church, Manor Park.*

Counters' Rota					
Date	19/02/2024	26/02/2024	04/03/2024	11/03/2024	18/03/2024
Group	St Mark	St Matthew	St Luke	St Mark	St Matthew